

# THE Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### THE PROPOSED ECCLESIASTICAL LEGISLATION.

THE heaven is at work. The apparent defeat of the Liberationists at the last general election, as indeed we have already anticipated, is not destined to set aside the controversy by which it is sought to determine the true relations of the Church to the State. The withdrawal of any present direct effort in Parliament for the disestablishment of the Church of England by those who have so long and patiently laboured to effect it, will be succeeded, we are now informed on sufficient authority, by the Parliamentary action of those whose object it is to preserve and strengthen the union. The bishops are preparing a measure which they hope to introduce during the present session, the object of which is to bring the clergy under some semblance, at least, of discipline, by the establishment of diocesan courts which are to consist of an equal number of clerical and lay members; and are intended to arm the bishop of each diocese with sufficient authority to prohibit irregularities in the mode of conducting public worship, or in case of disobedience to inflict the penalty of sequestration. The battle for the liberation of the Church will now be succeeded by an attempt for its further enslavement. The contest will be essentially the same, though the aggressive movement will proceed from the opposite quarter. The ideas and sentiments to be brought into collision at the instance of the Establishmentarians, will in substance be the ideas and sentiments which have hitherto been pitted one against another. There is no fear—we may even say there is no possibility—of a cessation of the strife, until the relationship of the civil power to religious institutions shall have been settled upon a reasonable and permanent basis.

The dawning prospect of new ecclesiastical legislation at the suggestion of the Episcopal Bench has, as might have been expected, brought Dr. Pusey into the field. For many years past he has been the most conspicuous representative of sacramentarian and sacerdotal theology. He is not a Ritualist, for he attaches but little importance to a mere ornate presentation of the truths which he holds. The spiritual dogmas with which he has identified his religious affections and trust are far weightier matters in his view than the garb of ritual in which they may be exhibited. But with them

he necessarily associates priestly independence. The Church (meaning thereby its hierarchy and clergy) possesses all Divine authority for ordering the mode in which the Word and the sacraments should be administered. He looks upon the intervention of Parliamentary authority for the regulation of Church affairs in the light of a usurpation which may easily pass into a tyranny, and he is evidently unprepared to allow the scheme of the bishops to pass through Parliament without offering to it a conscientious and determined resistance. He says in his second letter to the *Times*—"I do think it a gratuitous insult to the Church of England that the persons who, conjointly with the bishop, are to regulate her services are to be elected in part by persons hostile to her."

The present relations of Parliament and the Church produce already serious complications of a kind which no true Churchman, and I may add, no wise politician, would wish to exaggerate. No doubt these few words contain the pith of his objection to the proposed legislation. The *Times*, in commenting upon Dr. Pusey's letter, says—the extract is rather a long one, but we must ask leave to insert it—

"If Dr. Pusey is determined beforehand that the new tribunal shall be the organ of mischief, dissent, and all that is bad, then there is nothing for it, and we are able to put a value on Dr. Pusey's inevitable opposition when the doomed object of it appears. But even an anticipated and premature protest would have its value if it committed the protesting person to any positive recommendation or so much as throws light on his wishes. The protest before us does nothing of the kind, and we find ourselves quite unable to gather from it Dr. Pusey's estimate of the present state of things in the Church of England—whether he thinks or not that there is any great mischief calling for correction, or how he would propose to correct it. We do not gather that he waste back again the state of things as it existed forty years ago, or at any other date that could be specified; or that he has the least particle of reverence for what he calls the late Judicial Committee; or that he likes the intervention of Parliament in ecclesiastical affairs whenever it happens to be wanted; or that he would willingly give much authority to individual bishops, or that he would trust the whole bench of them when truth taught one thing and discretion another; or that he is satisfied with the existing state of ecclesiastical law and the decisions now in force; or that he has much confidence in the clergy, the churchwardens, or the people. If we ever saw a document which testified, both on its surface and down to its very depths of feeling and argument, that we are in a very bad way altogether, that there is no present remedy, and that a great deal has to be done, it is the letter before us. So far it may, and, indeed, must be, construed into a most urgent and instant appeal to our Legislature to save the Church of England."

We are not concerned to defend Dr. Pusey. We care not to deny the accusations brought against his second letter by the writer of the *Times* article. We do not see very clearly what remedy the High Church divine could propose for the evil which he is anxious to contend against, but that of disestablishment. He cannot have an independent Church, or at any rate, one in which "the breath of life" is healthy and strong, while at the same time her temporal position is provided for by the law of the land. The *Times* is quite right in asking whether congregations are to have no remedy against young gentlemen coming down upon them with what are to them superstitious or utterly unintelligible novelties; and whether they are to be left to the old simple expedient of deserting the Church, and providing for themselves elsewhere. The *Times* does not see, or affects not to see, that there may be a relationship of the Church to the State, which will leave both the clergy and their congregations to adjust for themselves the spheres of their respective rights and liberties. Both parties, in fact, have the power of saying for themselves much that is true

and reasonable, but neither party can exhibit a logical defence of its position in the presence of an Establishment. They will make this much clearer than it now is to the English people in the course of their contention. The freedom of spiritual organisations is irreconcilable with any authority over them of a purely temporal body. Wrangle as they may between themselves, this is the only conclusion to which their contest practically tends. Unwillingly, they have taken up the work of the Liberation Society. We shall watch their proceedings with intense interest, in the assured faith that the antagonism of the two forces which they represent will resolve itself into something different from either—namely, the inevitable and entire separation of the Church from the State.

### THE REV. J. C. RYLE AGAIN.

It is related of a preacher, much given to unconscious repetition of ideas, that on his asking a hearer how he liked the morning's sermon, the hearer pleasantly replied, "Oh, exceedingly well; I always do like that sermon." And somewhat in the same manner, after perusing, not without a measure of enjoyment, the *Record's* report of Canon Ryle's recent tirade at Ipswich, we are compelled to admit that "we always do like" that lecture. The title—whether "What good will it do?" or "What would come of it?"—makes no more difference to the contents than the variation of the text prefixed would do to the preacher's favourite sermon. The change from the categorical to the hypothetical form of question may indicate the encouragement afforded to canonical minds by the Conservative reaction; but there are not many traces of that in the text of the republished lecture. On the other hand, under both titles we find that the rev. Canon rings the same changes on the same fallacies. In both alike he pictures Dissenters as thirsting for the destruction of Episcopalianism, and as likely to be bitterly disappointed by the sturdy persistence of the disestablished Church. In both alike he suggests that our longing desire to dine and drink tea with Churchmen will have to suffer a more weary delay under disestablishment than under the present régime. In both alike he assures us that such is the slight hold which the Church has upon the agricultural districts, that on the voluntary principle it could not possibly sustain itself. He does not seem to see that this is the meaning of his language, but this is nevertheless what he really says. In both productions also he rates so lowly the generosity of Episcopalianism, and so highly their attachment to tithes and offerings, that in place of increased charity and brotherly love he predicts a state of things little short of civil war if the temporal endowments, unjustly held by a sect, should be devoted to more truly national purposes.

But we are quite willing to admit that as regards rhetorical vigour the Ipswich oration quite outdoes the former deliverance. The wrongs of agricultural parishes have entered like iron into Mr. Ryle's soul, and he speaks with the eloquence of righteous indignation. But lest our readers should do injustice to the orthodoxy of the orator, we hasten to assure them that it is not the low wages of labourers which excite his wrath, nor yet the indecent scantiness of the hovels they inhabit, much less the grave difficulties with which any free and spontaneous movements of religious life among them have to contend. All these are, with strict clerical propriety, regarded as inevitable accidents of that destiny supposed to be revealed in the words, "The poor ye have always with you." No; it is the audacity of those who presume to pity the agricultural labourer, which is too much for Mr. Ryle's patience. "There

is no class of our population in England, I am satisfied, so little understood as the agricultural, and so unjustly depreciated or so ungenerously spoken of by the leaders of the Birmingham League, and by the defenders of the manufacturing class." Well, if it is "unjust depreciation" to say that wages in the agricultural districts are a trifle lower than is consistent with comfort, or that with better education the labourers would find some way of righting themselves, we are afraid the rev. canon is justified in his accusation. But, perhaps, like other worshippers of established institutions, he is thinking only of the parson, the squire, and the farmer, who in his eyes make up the whole agricultural population. All others, it may be, are in his mind dimly conceived as nameless beneficiaries of "the clothing-clubs, shoe-clubs, boot-clubs, coal-clubs, soup-clubs, blanket-clubs," of which "in every well-ordered parish the clergyman is naturally expected to take the lead." However, Mr. Ryle is of opinion that "the first thing men want is something to eat—food." And inasmuch as the rural parishes are "vast manufactories of beef, mutton, cheese, bread, and corn," they are entitled to very great consideration. So they are, undoubtedly. And what has the Establishment done for them? "If no one else," says Mr. Ryle, "will stick up for the rural parishes, I shall and I will." Brave words; but the speaker's mode of fulfilling his promise is very odd. His own account of the rural parishes amounts to this—that they are peopled by a dependent-spirited race, quite unable to take care of themselves, and in constant need of charity. Apart from a resident squire and a clergyman, the poor rural parishes would sink into moral chaos at once. This is not our opinion, but Mr. Ryle's; and we think it is not very creditable to the objects of his affection or to the Church of his allegiance. The peasantry of Wales are not very rich, yet we do not find them so abjectly dependent on the parson and squire. They manage somehow to bear the burden of the State priesthood, and to build their own chapels as well. But they did not learn this sturdy energy from the Establishment. Mr. Ryle, however, shows his love for the rural parishes of England by insisting on the maintenance of a system which, according to his own account, although endowed with every advantage that wealth, prestige, and antiquity can give, has not been able to raise the population much above the civilisation of serfs.

But the Canon says he is "a thoroughgoing reformer." We hope we shall not be thought uncharitable if we suggest that any man who gives such a description of himself inevitably awakens suspicions concerning the nature of his reforming zeal. It is a worse case than that of the ancient artists who used to write under their pictures, "This is an ox" or "This is a dog," lest the one should be mistaken for the other. For we never knew a man say, "I am a thoroughgoing reformer," who did not turn out to be a prejudiced misinterpreter of reform. Who ever heard Mr. Bright or Mr. Fawcett say, "I am a thoroughgoing reformer"? Accordingly, we find Mr. Ryle deprecating in very strong terms any real measures of reform. Disestablishment and disendowment he considers would be like following "in the wake of the Eastern potentate, who resorted to the expensive mode of burning down houses that he might get roast pig." This savoury illustration, however, might be applied in another way. If practical religious objects are represented by roast pig—the elegance is not ours, but a clergyman's—it may perhaps be urged with some force, that the costliness of our present method of attaining them, as contrasted with the amount of real spiritual result attained, is comparable to the burning of a whole farm in order to roast a miserable little pig. Nay, we keep the whole country in a fever, and every now and then wrap it in the flames of religious passion—all for what?—To keep in every rural parish a president of "clothing clubs, shoe clubs, boot clubs, coal clubs, soup clubs, blanket clubs." With Mr. Ryle, we quite think the pig might be more economically roasted. But having got into the culinary vein, the orator finds it to his liking. He solemnly asseverates that "if the Church of England comes down, the Pope will soon make mincemeat of the chapels." Under these circumstances it will be a comfort to have Mr. Ryle's assurance that "never was the Church more active, preaching, and working since she came out of the jaws of the Church of Rome." Even, therefore, if the Pope should "make mincemeat" of us, there would appear to be still some hope of a resurrection. A member of the House of Peers once said of a certain book, that it was "the very worst ever vomited forth from the

jaws of"—another place. Upon which someone remarked that the book could not have agreed with the other place, otherwise it would not have been vomited. Let us cherish the hope that after the Pope has made mincemeat of us and our chapels, a similar dyspepsia may bring us forth from the jaws of Rome, "actively preaching and working" as energetically, and perhaps more wisely, than the Rev. J. O. Ryle.

#### ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

How often have the Nonconformists of England called attention to the unabated abuses of Church patronage? For scores of years and more have they been endeavouring to enlighten the country as to this disgrace upon the Christian religion—this disgrace formally acquiesced in by bishops and clergymen, practised every day, and every day with a virtual lie in the mouth of appointed clergyman and a virtual recognition of the lie by his bishop. When such things occur, as they constantly do, men laugh at Christianity, or at least at the sort of Christianity, if it can be called such, that is patronised by the State, and take license to cover up any amount of immoral declarations such as the clergy themselves make. It is only a few months since we asked in these columns whether a bishop would ever be found to bring in a bill for putting a stop to the disgraceful traffic that is now going on. We do not know that such a bishop has yet been found; but it is some satisfaction to read a notice given by the Bishop of Peterborough in the House of Lords last Friday that he would move for a "select committee to inquire into the laws relating to patronage, simony, and exchange of benefices in the Church of England." This is not much. It may be only a "buffer," but it is really something to have a bishop of the Established Church taking notice of this question. We hope that the select committee will be appointed. We were going to say that we also hope that the Established Church will survive the revelations of that committee, but our hope does not extend so far. We simply express our expectation that it will not long survive it.

The proposed bill for conferring new powers on the bishops and their consultees for the repression of anything like a disposition to break the law in the celebration of Divine worship in the Establishment has provoked a curious controversy. Perhaps the controversy is not worth much, but it is significant as far as it goes. Dr. Pusey, of course, expostulates, and the *Times* expostulates with Dr. Pusey. It is naturally disagreeable for men of the Pusey stamp to have civil law once more interfering with them—with their doctrines, their rituals, and their several ecclesiastical vagaries. These people try to ignore the fact that they are members of a Church whose existence depends solely upon civil law—a Church which could be put an end to by act of Parliament to-morrow, if Parliament should so choose. They hate civil law being introduced for ecclesiastical purposes; they writhe against it, they protest. Dr. Pusey's letters are so vague that they are really not worth quoting, but Archdeacon Denison has put the points at issue very clearly. He sees clearly enough, as we dare say Dr. Pusey sees, only he will not state it, what the issues are. The archdeacon protests in the plainest language against the proposed bishops' law. He says that it will be revolutionary, uncertain, one-sided, and impracticable. Perhaps it will be all these, indeed we have a suspicion that it will be and must be. But why not? Why not anything as regards that creature of the State, the Established Church? She has endured legislation enough in the past; what should prevent her enduring more legislation in the future? The Archdeacon says that "Tyranny and persecution, ecclesiastical and civil, have made rebellion before now, and will again." Quite true, but it would be such an odd thing to see the clergy of the Establishment rebelling on the side of liberty. Why, the archdeacon must know as well as we do that it is as possible for a tiger to turn into a lamb. The Established clergy on the side of liberty of any kind! who ever dreamed such a dream? Not even archdeacon Denison. "Tyranny," "persecution," "rebellion," and so on are grand words to use when they mean something, but from an archdeacon they never yet meant anything.

We believe that hitherto, Archdeacon Denison has been a Tory and, no doubt, a reader of the *Standard*. Will he now change his politics? We ask the question because we find this in the *Standard* relating to the proposed bill:—

It cannot be permitted that any section of clergymen should be a law unto themselves, just as if they were so many Deans of Westminster. The Ritualists have

brought it upon themselves. Having transgressed the liberty allowed them by the most tolerant and comprehensive Church in the whole world, they must not be surprised if measures are taken to put a stringent check upon them by providing means for the rapid and effectual repression of breaches of the ritual law. Believing that the bishops are acting under a strong sense of duty, we are inclined to approve their intention to resort to legislation. At the same time there are two considerations which ought to receive their careful attention. They should not go to Parliament without fairly submitting their proposals for the approval of Churchmen, and while providing the means of correcting offences in the way of excess, they must not lose sight of the duty of making similar provision for correcting offences in the way of defect. Slovenliness and indecorum in the conduct of public worship are not more venial than the extravagance and sensuousness which the bishops are so eagerly invited to extirpate. The sins of a clergyman who keeps open his church all the week and draws crowded congregations are not to be visited with severe correction, while the incumbent who keeps his doors barred and padlocked from Sunday to Sunday, and gives a cold and meagre service once a week, is allowed to go scot free.

The present Government has many questions to consider, but it probably did not reckon amongst them a redispal of the surplus revenues of the Irish Church. Yet, we find that influence is to be brought to bear upon Mr. Disraeli in this direction, for a Canon says:—

What will become of us God only knows; but this is plain—that it is all the reckless act of one who was ready to sacrifice an orthodox Church, and what he himself professed to think one, for the sake of the votes of Papists in Ireland and Dissenting Radicals in England. "Away with it," said they. "I see no fault in it," he replied. But he washed his hands and gave it up to their will.

And this melancholy state of a Church endowed with millions of money, is to be presented to the present Prime Minister. Suppose he should act upon the representation. If only he would!

More curious bits of literature are to be met with from the pens of clergy of the Established Church than from any other source. We have such a curious bit before us now. A Rev. G. Domville Wheeler, of Wolford Vicarage, has addressed a letter to his parishioners, which is now before us. Mr. Wheeler says:—

I know that much mischief is done by the wicked cheap newspapers which too many read, and which are full of falsehoods and everything that is bad. Did you see what one of the wretched men said who was hung at Gloucester for murder a few weeks ago? He confessed that it was through reading these wicked papers that he was led to commit the crime for which he suffered death. Take warning from his sad end; and instead of reading bad books and papers, read your Bibles; instead of listening to mischievous agitators, who deceive you to serve their own ends, and make promises which can never be fulfilled, listen to your minister who warns you for your own good; instead of breaking God's commandments by sending your children to Dissenting schools, and going yourselves to Dissenting chapels and services; remember that the Scriptures of truth tell us that Dissenters have not God's Spirit, and that it is our duty to mark such men "and avoid them," and remembering this, keep firm in your love for the Church of your fathers.

We present this address to Dean Stanley and others, and beg to ask them where lies the sin of schism?

#### THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT.

THE REV. MARMADUKE MILLER AT SOUTHPORT. —On March 14 the second of the series of lectures in connection with the Southport Auxiliary of the Liberation Society was delivered in the Town Hall by the Rev. Marmaduke Miller. As might have been expected from the popularity of the rev. gentleman, the room was well filled. Wm. Stead, Esq., presided, and was accompanied on the platform by the Revs. J. Chater, T. Holland, G. Hinds, H. Holgate, T. W. Ridley, T. Pottenger, and —Coles; Messrs. Alexander, Atherton, and Barrow. The chairman made a brief and pointed speech, after which Mr. Miller reviewed the Church property question, introducing into his lecture some very felicitous quotations. At the close Mr. Miller remarked:—

One of the most urgent reforms required by the Church was the power to distribute its teachers and funds according to the requirements of the nation. It was admitted that the Church of England was the most richly endowed in Christendom; but a great deal of this wealth was misused. Churchmen said that cathedral establishments needed reform, and that there were shameful inequalities in the stipends of the clergy. The largest incomes were in the rural districts; the town livings were, with few exceptions, the worst endowed in the Church. But the unequal distribution of the clergy was a greater evil than the distribution of the funds. The parish of Glaston (?) has a population of twenty-five, which means five families, and one of these will be the clergyman's own. The living is 213*l.* per annum, besides a parsonage. The patron is G. O. Fenwick, and the incumbent G. C. Fenwick. (Laughter.) This was no exceptional case. In the county of Norfolk, among the parishes beginning with "B" there were the following statistics:—One parish had eight houses and a population of thirty-one; another fifteen houses, seventy-five people; another sixteen houses, sixty-four people; another twelve houses, sixty-two people. A long list was quoted by the lecturer, and then reference was made to London, where the figures were represented as being far more startling. In 1870, Dr. Temple brought a bill into the House of Lords to extend the Act of 1860, enabling contiguous parishes to be united

together. This was to be applied to Exeter. During the discussion which followed, the Bishop of London told the House that the Act was utterly unworkable—that so many consents had to be obtained that, in ten years, only one union had been effected, and he concluded that the Act had become such a scandal that its amendment must be speedily undertaken. Next year the Bishop of London brought in a bill to amend the Act. It passed through the House of Lords, as other bills did—(laughter)—but when it got to the House of Commons all those Roman Catholics, Methodists, Presbyterians, Unitarians, Quakers, Jews, Swedenborgians, and infidels, had a right to say whether the bill should pass, and it did not pass. A bill would be brought in again, for “Now or never!” and then the Church would do its best. Some of the clergy thought Convocation should be reformed with a view to more freedom, but the ablest men of the Church saw clearly that reform of that kind was a vain imagination. There was but one way in which the Church could acquire the right of self-government, and that was by disestablishment, and sooner or later it would come to that. (Applause.)

The Chairman having invited discussion, Mr. Bowcock asked what the Dissenters had done for the part of London in which the Church had done so little? The Lecturer replied that he made no complaints of the Church having done little in any part of London. Mr. Bowcock: I took it in that light. (Laughter.) The Lecturer: I am not responsible for that. My point was that in the City of London proper, there were far more churches and far more clergymen than were necessary for the wants of the people. Therefore, the clergy had nothing to do; but outside the city there was a large proportion of people with comparatively small church accommodation. If the Church had freedom of action she would have removed the clergy. Mr. Bowcock: She is doing it now. The Lecturer: I have explained the extent to which it is done—that there has been one union of these benefices effected in ten years. Rev. T. Ridley, in moving a vote of thanks to the lecturer, said he had listened with great interest to a lecture clear in statement, calm in temper, and convincing in argument. (Applause.) The Rev. G. Hinds seconded the resolution, which was carried with acclamation. The lecturer replied, but was unable to silence his antagonist, who ejaculated, “I defy you to touch the Church!” “See what the ballot has done for you.”

THE REV. J. SCOTT JAMES AT DAVENTRY.—The *Daventry Spectator* (March 21) states that a good lecture was given in the Assembly Hall, on Tuesday evening, the 10th inst., by J. Scott James, of Stratford-on-Avon. The Rev. T. Adams took the chair, and Mr. James presented with freshness the arguments for Disestablishment, devoting a considerable space to Mr. Kyle's arguments. The lecture was extremely well received. At its close Mr. E. A. Briggs moved a resolution in favour of disestablishment, which was seconded by the Rev. J. C. Robinson, of Brington, and carried.

THE REV. J. H. GORDON IN NORTH WALES.—Mr. Gordon's recent visits to several towns in North Wales has developed quite a movement in the northern portion of the Principality. Although previously arranged for, the dates of his visits fell out just at the time of the elections, and there was some immediate upset in consequence; but, still, several capital meetings were held. In Rhyl, more especially, there was a first-rate meeting, the newly-elected M.P., Mr. Eytton, being in the chair, and expressing himself most heartily on the liberation question. It was announced at the close, by a clergyman then present, that a reply would be delivered, and Mr. Gordon added, “May I be there to see it!” Accordingly, last week, the clergy of the diocese, from the dean to the humblest of his curates, were astir, and several Church Defence Associations were formed, and public meetings held, and lectures delivered. The Rev. M. Edwards, vicar of Carnarvon, and J. E. Lyon, Esq., barrister-at-law, London, attended on behalf of the parent Church Defence Institution, and the Rev. J. H. Gordon, of Darlington, and J. Evans, Llanantffraid, were in the field on behalf of the Liberation Society. Lectures, and reply lectures, were thick in the neighbourhood all the week, and, whilst no resolutions were attempted at the Church Defence meetings, most emphatic resolutions were passed at the Liberation Society meetings. Everywhere the Liberationists were received with acclamations, and a great debate in both languages will take place soon after Easter in the largest accessible room in North Wales. The local papers right along the coast are full of reports of the various meetings, which we cannot further detail. The utmost order and good feeling has prevailed, and the interchange of little courtesies has been beyond the average. It is expected that Mr. Lyon and Mr. Gordon will take the English debate, and Mr. Edwards and Mr. Evans the Welsh, and arrangements are intended for publication.—On his way thither, Mr. Gordon lectured at Mexbro', in the West Riding, in the Congregational Church, on Bible Nonconformists, the pastor, the Rev. Mr. Gray, ably presiding. Mr. Andrew, of Leeds, also earnestly addressed the meeting, and some new members were enrolled. This was on Monday evening last.

#### BIGOTRY IN THE BURIAL GROUND.

The following letter in the *Surrey Comet* of Sunday last describes an incident which may be commended to the notice of those Liberal politicians who insist that Nonconformists now enjoy perfect religious equality:—

To the Editor of the *Surrey Comet*.

Sir,—I was glad to see that the plans for the new

cemetery at Wimbledon provide for “a central entrance, with an Episcopal chapel on the right, and a chapel for Dissenters on the left”; the accommodation for each being “exactly alike,” and the two buildings being, as I understand, united like those in Kingston and other cemeteries. I should have better liked the American plan of one building for the use of all parties, but, as Englishmen have not yet reached the point of Catholicity attained by Americans, this is the nearest approach to equality which is at present practicable.

But what was my astonishment at finding that, at the local board meeting at which the plans were considered, this particular feature of them was strenuously objected to! One speaker said that “there was a strong feeling in the parish that the chapels should be separate from each other.” Another said that, if they had one general chapel, their feelings would be “outraged,” and that if the board went against the feeling of the parish, it would “rouse a sleeping monster.” Even Dr. Huntingford, who “would have no objection to one chapel for all,” and was “by no means prejudiced,” said “it would be a great outrage to his feelings to have one building, the half of which was consecrated and the other half unconsecrated.” And, finally, Mr. Lamprell is responsible for the information, that “it would be rather hurtful to the feelings of the clergymen of the parish to see, as they would, if the proposed plans were carried out—a Dissenting preacher coming out of another door opposite to them!”

Is this the spirit of Wimbledon churchmanship, that the clergy actually loathe the sight of a “Dissenting preacher,” as though he were a leper? Is it really true that “a monster” will be aroused if dead Dissenters are not kept further away from dead Churchmen than has been proposed? If so, a cordon should be drawn around the parish of Wimbledon lest the bigotry of its clergy should prove infectious, and the barbarous “monster” should ravage surrounding parishes!

I, however, hope that before the local board has made an irretrievable mistake, whatever of Christianity and common sense may exist in Wimbledon will have effectually interfered on behalf of both.

AN “OUTRAGED” LOOKER-ON.

March 17.

Another correspondent of the same journal says:—“Should the board decide to have two chapels strictly separate, I think they should do all on the same principle and have two entrances, two lodges, and, I think, two sextons, or the same spades, pickaxes, &c., might be used in the unconsecrated as the consecrated ground.”

#### PROPOSED ECCLESIASTICAL LEGISLATION.

The proposal to create by Act of Parliament a new tribunal for each diocese, half clerical and half lay, with the bishop at its head, to deal with refractory priests, is causing some excitement among the Ritualists, who have lately been riding over their superiors. One of the “ultras,” Archdeacon Denison, writes to a contemporary on the subject. He says:—

It is reported that the bishops generally are in favour of the proposal, which is not improbable, but is no reason for not considering it in its substance upon the merits.

I have four things to say upon it:

1. That it is revolutionary in its nature.

2. That it will be uncertain in its operation.

3. That it is one-sided in its conception.

4. That it will be impracticable in its execution.

It is revolutionary in its nature, because it originates a thing hitherto wholly unknown to the Church. For the attempt to show that the proposed tribunal is a reproduction of the diocesan administration of past times, or has any analogy to it, is a bold one, but, like many others, disappears at once before the facts.

It will be uncertain in its operation, because under it we might have, and should have, a different rule in each diocese as to what should be dealt with by the tribunal and what should not; and, if at all, in what manner.

It is one-sided in its conception, because, as it is not attempted to be concealed, it is aimed at, and would only be exerted against, belief in the Real Presence, with its symbolism and its reverence, i.e., at and against what is commonly called “Ritualism.” It would be inoperative, as in purpose, so in act, against the many other beliefs about the Holy Eucharist, with their anti-symbolism, and their lack of reverence, or actual irreverence.

It will be impracticable in its execution, because its victims will be too many for its digestion.

The bishops would do better by administering their office equitably as bishops of “the Establishment” which is legally a compromise, and giving up the attainment to rule Faith and Practice by Act of Parliament. The persecution of Century XIX. has begun. At present it takes the plausible shape in England of exacting obedience to laws, of whatever kind, and however made. It has not yet gone as far as imprisonment, but it has to deprivation and beggary.

Tyranny and persecution, ecclesiastical and civil, have made rebellion before now, and will again.

Dr. Pusey has addressed a letter to the *Times* in depreciation of the legislative action which it is supposed the bishops intend to promote against the Ritualists. The doctor defines his own position as being that of “no Ritualist, although bound to many Ritualists by affection and by their labour for souls.” Dr. Pusey begs the bishops to be slow in entering upon “a line of action which, once entered upon, would be irrevocable. The Judicial Committee has included in its censures too many to be trodden out. If we could be shown to be mistaken in thinking that certain usages are in conformity to the English formularies, we should, I suppose, find other ways of expressing a devotion to our Lord dearer to us than life. As things are, they who would extirpate us would be obliged to leave their work undone. Endurance is stronger than infiction. There are too many, even for a summary process to sever from their flocks. Yet where there is one common offence, the judge who

sparcs any condemns himself for not having spared all. And if he spares any, his labour is fruitless.” In the course of his letter Dr. Pusey says, “It is acknowledged that the so-called Ritual movement has come mainly from the people, not from the clergy.”

It is denied on authority that the object of the bill at present being prepared is simply to enforce what is called the Purchas judgment. Legislation is called for to supply an easy and inexpensive process by which disputes of whatever kind on the subject of the public services of the Church, causing at present much irritation in many parishes, and therefore dangerous, may be speedily and authoritatively, as well as impartially, settled.

Relative to the contemplated legislation with respect to the Scotch Kirk, the *Weekly Review* says:—“The overture to the General Assembly, of which Dr. Buchanan gave notice at the last meeting of the Free Church Presbytery of Glasgow, is adroitly framed for the purpose of checkmating Dr. Begg and his friends with the Government. The London newspapers, with one or two exceptions, have long been in the habit of sneering at the principles of the Free Church as something which ‘no fallah can or is expected to understand,’ and members of Parliament of a corresponding class speak of the Disruption as a fanatical and foolish quarrel with the courts of law—the result of pride and temper rather than of principle, and the question as to the spiritual independence of the Church is represented by them as merely an extreme specimen of the ‘perfidious’ spirit and hairsplitting intellect of Scottish ecclesiastics. The incessant reiteration of these opinions has not been without effect on the Legislature and the Government, and the belief alleged to be entertained by the Premier and certain of his colleagues, that the time had come when the breach in the walls of Scottish Presbyterianism may be repaired, and the Established Church become once more the Church of the people of Scotland, has, no doubt, been the main reason why these statements have given any countenance, however slight, to the scheme which the Anti-Union Free Churchmen, and a section of their Established Church, are busily concocting. In order to show how thoroughly such men misunderstand the principles and have failed to appreciate alike the position and the influence of the Free Church and the opportunities of usefulness which that Church possesses and has employed with such signal success, Dr. Buchanan proposes to overture the Assembly to take precautions to ward off the danger which may arise from steps which will probably be taken in the present session of Parliament, and to adopt such measures as may best seem to uphold the position and to perpetuate the principles of the Free Church. The reference which Dr. Buchanan makes to the proposals for an alteration in the law of patronage is necessarily vague, because these proposals are themselves of the most vague and indefinite character. One thing, however, is sufficiently evident, that the intention of the proposers of the various schemes submitted to the Established Assembly is to effect not the abolition, but only a modification of the system of patronage—the substitution of half a dozen patrons for one—a change decidedly for the worse. No acknowledgment whatever is intended to be made of the right of the people to the choice of their ministers, and until this is taken up the present so-called anti-patronage agitation does not deserve, and will not receive, the support of the people of Scotland. The mere announcement of this overture on the part of the veteran leader of the Free Church may serve to satisfy Mr. Disraeli and his colleagues that the elaborate scheme of comprehension is a mere empty bubble, which will collapse the moment it is roughly handled.”

The Supreme Court of Justice in Brazil has sentenced the Bishop of Olinda to four years' imprisonment and hard labour.

Among the elected members of the new Convocation, there are thirty-eight who signed the remonstrance on the Purchas judgment, while there are only six who are subscribers to the Church Association.

It is stated from Rome that the bishops of Lombardy have addressed a collective letter to the King, protesting in very respectful terms against the bill enacting that the ceremony of civil marriage must be performed before the solemnisation of the religious rite.

A Church and State conflict is impending in Chili. Recently, at a political banquet, the Minister of the Interior declared that the Government shared the desire of the country for disestablishment. He promised that measures in this sense would be submitted to Congress next session.

WHAT NEXT?—The *Church Herald* is shocked with a fashionable announcement that the Countess of Waldegrave was to have select evening parties on Fridays during the present month. Our contemporary characterises this as an intentional outrage on the feelings of Churchmen.

CHURCH AND STATE IN GERMANY.—The Prussian bill for internment and exiling refractory priests has been approved by the State Council of the German Empire with all but unanimity, the only dissentient being the Reuss-Schleiz Government. The bill will be immediately submitted to the German Parliament.

THE ULTRAMONTANES IN AUSTRIA.—On Thursday evening, in Vienna, a monster meeting of Ultramontanes was held, to protest against the new ecclesiastical bill. The meeting was largely

attended by the *élite* of the aristocracy of Austria and Hungary. Cardinal Antonelli sent the Pope's blessing by telegraph, and numerous despatches expressing sympathy with the meeting were received from foreign countries, England amongst others.

**CONGREGATIONALISM IN THE UNITED STATES.**—The *Congregationalist* gives the following statistics of the Congregational Church:—"The number of churches in the United States is 3,326, an increase of 62 for the year 1873. The membership numbers 323,679, an increase of 4,753. The number of scholars in Sunday-schools is 372,554, a gain of 1,454. The amount of benevolent contributions for the year is 72,122,060 dols., an increase of 1,213,816 dols."

**THE POPE ON PERSECUTION.**—In receiving a deputation of ladies the other day, the Pope expressed himself as follows:—"My dear daughters, you cannot be ignorant of the war which is being waged against Catholicism. There is a great Protestant persecutor who has openly declared that he aims at the overthrow of the Church, and not content with that, he is exciting against us even those Governments that are Catholic, who have preceded him in the shameful carousal of religious oppression. He incites them, I say, to increased zeal in carrying out their persecutions, and they make themselves his accomplices."

**FATHER O'KEEFE.**—Judge O'Brien charged the jury on Friday in the action for alleged libel which has been at hearing for the past three days, and in which Bishop Moran is charged with having imputed forgery to the Rev. Robert O'Keefe; damages being laid at 5,000*l*. The jury retired, and, after an absence of over two hours, returned to court with a finding that the publication complained of did not impute forgery, but disagreeing upon the issue whether the plaintiff knowingly made to the Commissioners of Education a false representation that the document recommending his appointment as manager of the schools bore genuine signatures. They were sent back to consider the question. They were, however, unable to agree, and were discharged.

**SIR HENRY HAVELOCK AND THE RIGHTS OF DISSENTERS.**—At a meeting on behalf of the new chapel and soldiers' home at Aldershot, Sir Henry Havelock, M.P., said:—"He recalled with just pride the year 1829, when, religious matters being at a very low ebb in the army, his father, who then occupied no higher position than that of a subaltern of Her Majesty's 13th Light Infantry in India, was the first to make a decided stand for the rights of Dissenters in the army. The soldiers were then marched to the parade services of the Church of England without being consulted in the matter. His father objected to it, and by a memorial addressed direct to George the Fourth, who was then on the throne, he obtained for British soldiers those privileges which they had since enjoyed, and which he was sure were valued by none more highly than by the Wesleyan soldiers on whose behalf they had met that night."

**THE OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA.**—This severance between Church and State, the "Atheistical" refusal to acknowledge the Supreme in the Federal Constitution, does not seem to have produced such dire results as are predicted of such a separation in England. Americans are at least as God-fearing a people as the British. Religion does not languish and decay because the *Daily* is not defended by an Act of Parliament. Facts are better than theoretical deductions. Taking up a New York *Gazetteer* to ascertain the accommodation provided for public worship, and noting the first ten instances which came to hand on opening the book several times at random, I obtained the following results, which I tabulate for clearness:—

Population of Village or Town.	Number of Churches.
46	2
456	3
2,125	5
350	3
166	1
138	2
42	2
100	2
2,008	4
871	3
4,302	27

That is, twenty-seven churches to 6,302, or one church to 233 persons. This does not look much like *Atheism*. Legislatures invite clergymen to open their daily sittings with prayer, and sometimes, on great public celebrations, assemble in a body to hear sermons. The chaplains are selected indiscriminately from all denominations, and God is recognized as much as if bishops sat in the Senate. Even so much as this is, of course, a violation of the rigid principles of the separation of Church and State, inasmuch as chaplains are paid by public money; but this mild case of levelling-up has not yet given rise to any difficulty.—*American Correspondent of the Bradford Observer.*

The fourth part of Dr. William Smith's elaborate "Atlas of Classical and Biblical Geography" will be published by Mr. Murray about Easter. The fifth part, concluding the work, and containing the letter-press, will be ready by Christmas.

Mr. Winwood Reade, who, as the special correspondent to the *Times*, had opportunities of seeing the whole operations of the Ashantee war, is writing a complete account of the campaign. It will be published by Messrs. Smith, Elder and Co.

## Religious and Denominational News.

### THE NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL, ACCRINGTON.

The new and elegant place of worship in Cannon-street, Accrington, of which the Rev. Charles Williams is the pastor, was opened for Divine worship on Thursday last. It is one of the chief ornaments of the town, and has a spire 130 feet high. The interior is very admirably fitted up, and some 800 persons can be accommodated on the ground-floor exclusive of the galleries. The Baptists of Accrington have been in the habit of worshipping for many years in the Blackburn-road Chapel. Since 1863, says a local paper, "the Baptists of Blackburn-road Chapel have done a great work. They have acquired land and erected upon it a magnificent chapel and school at a cost of about 12,000*l*., and of that considerable sum they have raised among themselves about 10,000*l*. This is a testimony not only to the general wealthy and prosperous condition of the congregation, but also to the harmonious religious feelings which must exist among pastor and people to make so great an object possible. To the Rev. Charles Williams, the pastor, this work must give peculiar satisfaction. The chapel is a credit to the liberality and generosity of the congregation, as an ornament to the town." The site of the new place of worship cost about 1,072*l*., the building itself 7,500*l*., a new organ has cost 730*l*., and contiguous to the chapel is "the most convenient and finest school in the town," erected, in 1864, at an expense of about 2,700*l*., so that altogether there has been a total outlay, as stated above, of some 12,000*l*. 2,250*l*. has been received as the proceeds of the sale of the old chapel, and the remainder has been raised by voluntary contributions, a sum of 1,000*l*. only being required to free the church from debt.

The Rev. Charles Williams has been the pastor for the last eighteen years with a slight break, and there are in connection with the place 345 church-members and 980 scholars; and including Oswaldtwistle, Church, and Barnes-street branches, there are 669 church-members and 1,801 Sunday scholars.

The opening services were commenced on Wednesday evening, when a devotional meeting was held for the purpose of dedicating the building to the service of Almighty God. The body of the chapel, which is calculated to seat 800 persons, was well filled, and there were a few in the galleries. Several members of the church engaged in prayer, invoking the blessing of God on the new undertaking, and praying that it might be instrumental in saving many souls. After the devotional exercises, the Rev. Dr. Landels, of London, preached a sermon, selecting for his text John xiv. 21—"He that hath my words and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me; and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and manifest myself unto him."

On Thursday afternoon there was another service, and though the weather was unfavourable, a large audience was gathered to hear another sermon from Dr. Landels, who took for his text, John xii. 31—"Now shall the prince of this world be cast out, and I if I be lifted up will draw all men unto me. This he said signifying what death he should die." The Rev. A. MacLaren, of Manchester, was the evening preacher. There was a larger congregation than in the afternoon, and Mr. MacLaren preached a powerful sermon from part of the nineteenth verse of the second chapter of the Epistle of Paul to the Colossians—"Holding the head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God." A collection was made at the close of the sermon. Mr. Williams announced that as near as could be ascertained, they required 1,000*l*. to free the church from debt. The total collections on Thursday realised 167*l*.

The Rev. Dr. Brook continues to make progress towards recovery, though but very slowly.

**GRAVESEND.**—The new Congregational church, erected by the Rev. William Guest and his friends for the convenience of the pupils of Milton Mount College, and to meet the wants of the parish in which it stands, will be opened on Tuesday next. Further particulars will be found in an advertisement elsewhere.

**UNITY CHAPEL, ISLINGTON.**—We regret to announce that the Rev. Henry Ierson, M.A., has resigned his pulpit at this church, and that the resignation will take effect in Midsummer. Mr. Ierson has reluctantly withdrawn from a post of duty which he has occupied with signal ability for sixteen years, first at the old chapel in Little Carter-lane, and afterwards for more than eleven years at the beautiful new church at Islington.—*Inquirer.*

**THE BAPTIST CHURCHES AND THE BENGAL FAMINE.**—The appeal made by the Baptist Missionary Society on behalf of the sufferers from the Bengal famine has yielded 1,800*l*., and is expected to reach 2,000*l*. "Thus," says the *Freeman*, "the churches have anticipated the increased need which was intimated in the latest communications from our brethren in India. They have done so by voluntarily giving at least double more than the sum which was originally indicated as necessary to be procured in order to meet the calculated want in our churches in Bengal."

**THE REVIVAL IN SCOTLAND.**—At a meeting of the Free Presbytery of Paisley, the following motion was agreed to:—"The presbytery, having

had their attention directed to the present religious awakening in Scotland, desire to express their gratitude to God for the blessing vouchsafed in connection with the labours of the American evangelists, and their earnest hope that similar results may be attained within their own bounds by an abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit in this part of the land. They desire also to express their satisfaction in learning that a visit may be expected from Messrs. Moody and Sankey, and they exhort their people to abound in private and united prayer for a renewal of the Lord's work in the midst of us."

**HOWDEN.**—On the evening of Saturday last, the members and friends of the Congregational Church at Howden, Yorkshire, met to celebrate the extinction of the debt upon the chapel. Tea was provided in the schoolroom, to which a company of 150 sat down. After tea a public meeting was held in the chapel. The minister, the Rev. J. P. Ritchie, occupied the chair. Addresses were given by the Revs. James Bullock, M.A., Wilsden; James Robertson, and J. H. J. Taylor, Bingley; Fred Hall, Thornton; J. Newsholme, Denholme; and R. Vaughan, Shipley. The chairman stated that the original cost of the chapel was 2,000*l*. About six months ago, it was resolved to make an effort to clear off the balance of the debt, amounting to 250*l*. From the subscription-list it appeared that, with a contribution of 100*l*. from S. Watmuff, Esq., upwards of 190*l*. had been raised among friends connected with the place, and about 60*l*. from external sources. Mr. Titus Salt having generously contributed half the expense of making Mr. Ritchie a member of the Pastors' Relief Fund, the balance of the subscription was unanimously voted by the church.

**BRISTOL.**—On the evening of the 11th inst. a recognition service on the settlement of the Rev. W. R. Skerry (late of Newcastle-upon-Tyne), as pastor of the Counterslip Baptist Chapel, in the place of the Rev. R. P. Macmaster, took place at that place of worship. The proceedings commenced with tea, which was served in the chapel, at which about seven hundred persons, members of the church and congregation and friends, were present. After tea the chair was occupied by Mr. G. H. Leonard. Mr. Wearing (deacon) read an address of the deacons upon the subject that had brought the meeting together. After an address from the Rev. T. W. Handford, of Bloomsbury Chapel, London, the Rev. W. R. Skerry explained his views relative to his future pastoral labours, and said he was quite prepared to work largely among the poor. The Rev. R. Glover remarked that statistics showed that they were growing at a less ratio than the population of the land was growing; and if the statistics showed that he feared that the fact was darker still. They had been going back in Bristol, and as Dissenters they did not hold the same ratio to the general population that they did twenty years ago. Was that to go on? Had the Gospel lost its charm? He did not believe it had; but he did believe that Nonconformist churches thought too much of their ministers. There was a good deal of Ritualism amongst them, and to a large extent they had been living on the past. He contended that a great revival of religion was needed. The Rev. Mr. Adams (of the Stapleton-road Congregational Chapel) made a few observations, in the course of which he welcomed Mr. Skerry to Bristol in the name of his Congregational brethren.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.**—A convention of Sunday-school teachers of both sexes and of various denominations, which is to last three days, was opened yesterday, at the Weigh-house Chapel, Fish-street-hill, for the purpose of discussing subjects in connection with Sunday-school teaching. Sir C. Reed, M.P., presided, supported by the Revs. W. Braden, A. G. Maitland, G. Critchley, S. Cowdy, W. A. Essery, and other gentlemen. The Chairman expressed his belief that a new era was being opened with regard to Sunday-school teaching. A revolution was, as it were, before them, for very soon all lovers of Sabbath teaching would have to take their parts in a state of circumstances and a system of action requiring a great range and a development of organisation worthy of the needs of this great metropolis and the country. Sunday schools originally were for destitute children and those who were likely to be troublesome during the Lord's Day; but it was felt by the different congregations that no Christian Church could be perfect unless it included schools for the teaching of its own children on the Sunday. Thus it was that most of the churches and chapels had Sunday-schools of their own. Under recent circumstances, in connection with a national system of education, a large number of schools had been erected at great cost all over the metropolis. The friends of ragged-schools by scores had transferred their schools—not their premises but their children—to the care of the school board, and since then a strong application had been made to the board for the use of their newly-built schools on the Sunday, and the board, taking into consideration the enormous expense which had been entailed upon the rate-payers generally, had decided to grant the use of some of their buildings at a suitable rent. If the application had been one in connection with lectures or preaching on the Sunday there might have been some discussion amongst the members of the board, but when it was known that it was for Sunday-school teaching, then every objection was removed. About ninety such schools had been opened or were in the course of completion; and as they were capable of accommodating 80,000 children at least, it would be seen there was ample scope for

the energy and piety of the members of all Christian denominations in London. Every facility would be given by the school board, and he believed that the good work of Sabbath-teaching would be carried on more vigorously than ever. A paper was then read by the Rev. G. Critchley, B.A., on "The Sunday-school and its connection with the Christian Church"; and a lengthy discussion arose on the problem how to lead little folks unto Christ. At half-past five tea was served in the school-room; and in the course of an hour the proceedings were resumed by the reading of a paper by the Rev. V. J. Charlesworth, entitled, "Youthful Discipline: its Features, Tests, Helps, and Hindrances." The Rev. W. Braden presided, and the attendance was equally large. The programme for to-day and to-morrow contains the following, amongst other subjects, for discussion:—"The Teachers' Work," "The Office of Superintendent," "The Secretary and other Officers," "Week Evening Engagements of Teachers and Scholars," "The Mission of the Christian Church to the Children inside the Sunday-school," and "The Influence of National Education upon the Sunday-school Cause."

### Correspondence.

#### CANON RYLE'S LECTURE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—You have charged me in your paper with saying publicly in a lecture that which is "simply and grossly untrue." So far as I can make out, your charge is founded on an imperfect and abridged report of a lecture I recently delivered at Ipswich on "Disestablishment." For that report I decline any responsibility.

I now tend you a correct report of what I did say, in that particular part of my lecture to which you have thought fit to apply the strong language, "simply and grossly untrue."

Well, as soon as the Act of Disestablishment had received the royal assent, the English bishops would cease to have seats in the House of Lords. The income of the bishops and clergy, from tithes and lands, would be appropriated by the State, as fast as the present receivers of it died off.

In the process of time there would be nothing left to the Church, out of all her present possessions, except the church-buildings, the pew-rents, a life-interest in the income of the bishops and clergy for a few years, and the endowments of the last two centuries. This property, on the principles of the Irish Act, would probably be left to the Church of England.

Some wild and rabid Liberatorists, I believe, have coolly proposed that the clergy shall be stripped of their life-incomes, and turned into the street, as paupers, the very day the Disestablishing Act passes! They have also proposed that parish churches shall be taken away from Episcopalianism, and applied to other uses! Whether they are to be put up to auction and sold to the highest bidder, or turned into libraries, museums, mechanics' institutes or music-halls, I do not yet know. I decline, however, to notice such stuff as this. Until the House of Commons is very unlike any House which has ever been elected in this country, it will never sanction such a policy, or ignore vested interests. There is no earthly reason why the Church of England should be treated more harshly than the Church of Ireland. After disestablishment all churches and sects would be left on a dead level of equality. No favour or privilege would be granted by the State to one more than another. The infidel, the Deist, the Mahometan, the Socinian, the Jew, the Romanist, the Episcopalian, the Presbyterian, the Congregationalist, the Methodist, the Baptist, all would be regarded with equal indifference. The State itself would have nothing to do with religion, and would leave the supply of it to the principles of free-trade and the action of the voluntary system. In a word, the Government of England would allow all its subjects to serve God or Baal,—to go to heaven or to hell,—just as they please. The State would take no cognisance of spiritual matters, and would look on with Epicurean indifference and unconcern. The State would continue to care for the bodies of its subjects, but it would entirely ignore their souls.

Gallio, who thought Christianity was a matter of "words and names," and "cared for none of these things," would become the model of an English Statesman. The Sovereign of Great Britain might be a Papist, the Prime Minister a Mahometan, the Lord Chancellor a Jew. Parliament would begin without prayer. Oaths would be dispensed with in courts of justice. The next King would be crowned without a religious service in Westminster Abbey. Prisons and workhouses, men of war and regiments, would all be left without chaplains. In short, for fear of offending infidels and people who object to intercessory prayer, I suppose that regimental bands would be forbidden to play "God Save the Queen."

This, so far as I can make out, is the state of things which the Liberatorists wish to bring about in Great Britain. This is the end and object of all their talk, and noise, and organisation, and agitation. This is the delightful condition of matters which Mr. Miall and his companions want to set up in the land. This is what they mean when they talk of Disestablishment. Let them deny it if they can.

You will have the goodness to observe that in this statement I draw a broad distinction between the proposals of "wild and rabid Liberatorists," and the proposals of others. The former I speak of as "stuff"; the latter I consider gravely. This distinction you have ignored. I shall now feel obliged if you will explain in what respect my sketch of the aim and intentions of those Liberatorists who are not "wild and rabid," deserve to be called "simply and grossly untrue"? If Mr.

Miall and his companions do not wish the endowments of the Episcopal Church to be alienated from that Church—if they did not wish all churches and sects to be placed on a dead level of equality—if they do not wish the State to take no cognisance of spiritual matters, I shall be glad to hear it. Until I do hear it, I do not admit that I have said anything untrue.

I remain, yours faithfully,  
J. C. RYLE.

Stradbroke, March 23, 1874.

P.S.—I trust to your candour to insert this letter.

[We insert the letter, which has reached us only a few hours before going to press, but at no little inconvenience. We have no time to comment upon it, even if comment were necessary.—ED. NONCON.]

#### F. C. BAUR AND THE ACTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In your paper of March 18 is a just criticism on F. C. Baur's attack upon the Acts of the Apostles. That attack is mainly founded on a mistranslation of Galatians ii. 1, a passage which Baur understands, agreeably with our Authorised Version, as directly contradicting the Acts, as to a fact with which the writer professes to be particularly well acquainted, namely, as to Paul's visits to Jerusalem. In Gal. i., the Apostle says that three years after his conversion he paid a visit to Jerusalem. In Gal. ii. 1 he adds (in the A. V.), "Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem." This passage I venture to translate, "Then in the course of fourteen years I again went up to Jerusalem." Thus the interval mentioned puts a date upon the Epistle, not on the journey to Jerusalem. This translation can easily be justified by other passages. The preposition used is *dia*, through, followed by a genitive case, meaning *during*, or *in the course of*, but never meaning *after*. Let us look to the other passages where this preposition is used in relation to time. In Acts i. 3, we read "being seen by them during forty days." In Luke v. 5, we read, "Master, we have toiled during the whole night." In Acts xvi. 9, we read, "A vision was seen by Paul in the course of the night." In Acts xvii. 10, we read, "The brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas in the night." It is hardly necessary to quote more instances, but two others may be mentioned in which the A. V. needs correction. Thus, in Mark ii. 1, instead of "after some days," we may read, without any change of meaning, "in a few days." But in Acts xxiv. 17, we must make a correction nearly as important as that in Gal. ii. 1, the subject of this letter. There the A. V. has, "Now after many years I came to bring alms to my nation." Instead of this, we ought to read "during" or "for several years." The Apostle means to say that he repeatedly went up to Jerusalem with alms.

I venture to think that the above quoted passages abundantly prove that Baur is mistaken when he says that Galat. ii. 1, contradicts the Acts of the Apostles as to Paul's journey to Jerusalem. But I ought to add that the Latin Vulgate supports the usual translation and Baur's opinion; and that I had published several editions of my translation of the New Testament before I had noticed the mistake.

We are indebted to the Germans for their free criticism of the Bible: but we must not be misled by them when their zeal leads them to be unfair in their search for difficulties. I know of no correction of the translation more important than the above, which rescues the writer of the Acts from what is otherwise a very serious charge of inaccuracy.

Yours, &c.,

SAMUEL SHARPE.

32, Highbury-place, March 24, 1874.

#### ATTENDANCE AT PLACES OF WORSHIP.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—You have touched on a subject of much interest in your last issue, namely, the relative attendance at Established and Free places of worship, but one point you do not notice is the proportion between sittings and attendance. I have therefore made a little calculation to illustrate this, which may possibly interest your readers.

The sittings in the various places of worship were occupied to the following extent at the most numerous attended services in 1851 and 1872:—

	Estab. 1851. 1872. Per cent.		Non-Estab. 1851. 1872.	
Newcastle .	73	62	61½	57
Leicester .	77	64	67½	78½
Warrington .	64½	37	65½	53

From this it will be seen that in every case, except the Free Churches of Leicester, the sittings in places of worship have been multiplied in a greater ratio than the attendances; and that whereas (taking the three towns together) the proportion of sittings occupied in the Free Churches has remained about stationary, in the Established Churches there is now a much greater proportion of empty seats than in 1851. Consequently, whilst in 1851 the churches were better filled than the chapels, in 1872 the reverse was the case.

Yours respectfully,

J. F. THURSFIELD.

Kettering, March 20, 1874.

#### TREATMENT OF THE INSANE IN AMERICAN PRISONS AND POORHOUSES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Notwithstanding the immense progress which has been made of late years in the United States in various departments of national expansion—as, for example, in the development of railways and the reclamation of prairie and forest lands—there are not wanting many symptoms of retrogression in respect to important social and moral interests of the community which are of a nature to cause grave anxiety to the well-wishers of that great country, and which are eliciting earnest protests from small minorities of the best citizens of the States—protests which, owing to the inherent weakness of an ultra-democratic Government, are too often raised without effect.

One form of social neglect which is becoming increasingly prevalent, even in the older States, is a gross want of provision for the care of the insane poor in prisons and workhouses—a subject to which exemplary attention has been given in this country, where asylums for such unfortunates are abundantly maintained and efficiently inspected, and where the insane are systematically removed from prisons to more appropriate places of detention. But it is far otherwise in America.

I have just received from Dr. A. J. Ourt (a well-known philanthropist of Pennsylvania) some very painful revelations of abuses in regard to the class just alluded to. References are made to these evils in reports received from various States; but the most striking occur in a document, just published by the "Board of Public Charities of Pennsylvania," entitled, "A Plea for the Insane in Prisons and Poorhouses" (Philadelphia, 1873): A. C. Benson, 607, Chestnut-street. To this document is appended a series of confirmatory pleas and memorials by a number of the chief jurists, doctors, and philanthropists of the State, including ex-Chief Justice Thompson, Bishop Simpson, Hon. Joseph R. Chandler, Dr. A. J. Ourt, Dr. D. Luther, D. Maury, Dr. Hartshorne, Messrs. J. J. Barclay, George L. Harrison, John M. Whitall, and many other well-known citizens of Pennsylvania. A supplementary and confirmatory "Plea," addressed to the State Legislature and dated Harrisburg, February 7, 1874, has also been issued by the same parties.

But for such well-authenticated authority, statements like the following would hardly be credited. The "Plea" reports that "No intelligent person has ever made a general visitation of the prisons and almshouses of this State without being startled and almost overwhelmed by the forlorn and hopeless, and sometimes horrible, condition of their insane inmates." In confirmation of this, a pauper hospital is mentioned whose inmates "are kept naked in their cells, and merely taken out every morning to have a portion of the filthy straw removed, after which they are replaced in their dens, the atmosphere of which 'exceeds in offensiveness anything which the imagination can conceive.'" It is added that "some of these people come to be regarded by the other inmates as mere animals; and the young girls of the establishment look upon these naked men simply as they would look upon a horse or a dog. Frequently two of the young female inmates of this insane hospital are called upon to clean these men each morning, as they are drawn out of their cells!"

In another institution, an almshouse, on a bitterly cold day in February (with the thermometer at 14 deg. Fahr.), an insane young woman was found in a most pitiable condition, with scarcely any clothing and "blue with cold." In the adjoining apartment were two wretched women, "both of whom were absolutely without a single garment to cover them. One of the poor creatures sat crouching in a corner with a small blanket drawn across her shoulders, while the other was crawling on all fours on the floor, without even this poor apology for any remnant of human decency."

The "Board of State Charities" report of one visit:—"We examined a woman who was quite young. We were afraid to go near her, as she seemed covered with vermin. We were all much shocked by the visit." In another poorhouse they observed a patient who perpetually chained by the wrists to the ceiling, lest he may tear his clothes. In another was a poor girl in shackles, "who at the name of 'mother' utters sobs whose pathos would touch the most callous heart." In another institution were a number of insane persons confined in cells, on each side of a narrow corridor. By this close proximity to each other, day and night are rendered most distressing by the shrieks and yells of the wretched madmen. In some instances the insane paupers are kept chained, and never removed into the open air. One patient, a woman, rendered insane through the cruelty of her seducer, has been shut up for twenty-one years, and in such a cramped position, and damp, dirty den, that the only movement of which she is capable is one similar to that of a frog. In another part of the State, many insane persons have been confined for twenty, thirty, and even forty years, under similar wretched conditions. In many of the prisons, also, there is a like absence of care as to the treatment or removal of insane prisoners. There are some well-conducted asylums in Pennsylvania, but almost exclusively for those who can pay for the accommodation. The general condition of the pauper and criminal insane is

of the very worst description—a condition as much unlike some popular ideas of “Western freedom” as can possibly be imagined, and almost incredible as existing in the year of grace 1874. In 1845 and 1852, Pennsylvania made some advance in her legislation for the insane poor; but, in 1861, a retrograde step was taken by the Legislature, since which date matters have gone from bad to worse; just as, of late years, Pennsylvania has also retrograded in her system of prison discipline. In New York a decided improvement has taken place in the care of the insane, but in many other States of the Union there is reason to fear that things are not much better than in the great “Keystone State” of Pennsylvania. Even in Massachusetts, the Board of State Charities reports that most of the lunatic poor are either imperfectly cared for or wholly beyond State supervision.

Whilst it is so far satisfactory that a few noble-hearted men in Pennsylvania are raising their voices against this shocking state of things, it is deeply to be regretted that many others appear so apathetic. All the religious bodies of the “Quaker State” ought to bestir themselves. But even the Quakers, who in England have been pioneers in the reform of the treatment of the insane (as the Tukes, of York Retreat, for example), have, in Pennsylvania, sadly retrograded from the example of the broad-minded and warm-hearted Penn, and have almost annihilated their moral influence by their absorbing devotion to money-getting, and by sectarian squabbles.

It may be that if the English press accords publicity to this sad state of things (of which I have seen no public notice, as yet, in the newspapers), some influence may thereby be produced in America, which may not be without useful effect in aiding the small band of noble-hearted men who are there striving to obtain legislative reforms in this direction. The knowledge of such abuses may, at least, increase the thankfulness of Englishmen at the greater progress their own country has been able to make in reference to the oversight and humane treatment of the destitute and helpless, owing to that combination of central executive power with a large amount of local self-government which Great Britain is privileged to enjoy to an extent unsurpassed by any other nation in the world.

Yours respectfully,  
WILLIAM TALLACK.

Howard Association, London.

### Imperial Parliament.

On Thursday afternoon Parliament met for the despatch of business. The Commons were as usual summoned by Black Rod, and the Lords Commissioners being duly seated, the LORD CHANCELLOR read the Queen's Speech as follows:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

I recur to your advice at the earliest period permitted by the arrangements consequent on the retirement of the late Administration.

My relations with all foreign powers continue to be most friendly. I shall not fail to exercise the influence arising from these cordial relations for the maintenance of European peace and the faithful observance of international obligations.

The marriage of my son, the Duke of Edinburgh, with the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrovna, of Russia, is at once a source of happiness to myself and a pledge of friendship between two great empires.

The war with the King of Ashantee has terminated in the capture and destruction of his capital, and in negotiations which I trust may lead to a more satisfactory condition of affairs than has hitherto prevailed on the West Coast of Africa.

The courage, discipline, and endurance displayed by my forces, both of the land and sea service, together with the energy and skill evinced in the conduct of the expedition, have brilliantly maintained under the most trying circumstances the traditional reputation of the British arms.

I deeply regret that the drought of last summer has affected the most populous provinces of my Indian empire, and has produced extreme scarcity in some parts, amounting to actual famine over an area inhabited by many millions. I have directed the Governor-General of India to spare no cost in striving to mitigate this terrible calamity.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,—

The estimates for the expenditure of the coming financial year will be forthwith submitted to you.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

The delay and expense attending the transfer of land in England have long been felt to be a reproach to our system of law, and a serious obstacle to dealings in real property. This subject has in former sessions occupied the attention of Parliament, and I trust that the measures which will now be submitted for your consideration will be found calculated to remove much of the evil of which complaint has been made.

You will probably be of opinion that the rearrangement of the judicature, and the blending of the administration of law and equity, which were effected for England by the enactment of last session, ought, on the same principles, to be extended to Ireland, and you will be asked to devote some part of your time to the accomplishment of this object.

The greater part of these changes would be inapplicable to the tribunals of Scotland, but you will be invited as to that part of my kingdom to consider the most satisfactory mode of bringing the procedure upon appeals into harmony with recent legislation; and among other measures relating to her special interests a bill for amending the law relating to land rights, and for facilitating the transfer of land, will be laid before you.

Serious differences have arisen and remonstrances

been made by large classes of the community as to the working of the recent Act of Parliament affecting the relationship of master and servant, of the Act of 1871 which deals with offences connected with trade, and of the Law of Conspiracy, more especially as connected with these offences. On these subjects I am desirous that before attempting any fresh legislation you should be in possession of all material facts, and of the precise questions in controversy; and for this purpose I have issued a royal commission to inquire into the state and working of the present law with a view to its early amendment, if it should be found necessary.

A bill will be introduced dealing with such parts of the Acts regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors as have given rise to complaints which appear to deserve the interference of Parliament.

Your attention will also be directed to the laws affecting friendly and provident societies.

All these matters will require your grave consideration, and I pray that the Almighty may guide your considerations for the welfare of my realm.

When the Lords reassembled in the evening, LORD LOTHIAN moved and LORD CARINGTON seconded, the address in reply to the royal speech.

EARL GRANVILLE followed in a speech which touched lightly on the various topics of the Queen's message. As to the Indian famine, he said he believed that on no former occurrence of a similar calamity had so much foresight and kindness been exhibited by the authorities. The Duke of SOMERSET observed that Mr. Gladstone once said the members of the House of Lords appeared to be so far removed from the general feeling of people out of their circle that they seemed to be “up in a balloon.” It appeared to him that Mr. Gladstone himself had at last gone up in a balloon with some other officials, and had tumbled out of it.

As to the dissolution of Parliament, the Duke of Somerset did not complain of it because it placed him on the Opposition side of the House, but he complained of the manner in which it had been brought about, and of the Prime Minister submitting his budget to the country before submitting it to Parliament. He also censured Mr. Gladstone's coquetting with Home-Rulers, who aimed at the dismemberment of the empire, for the purpose of gaining a few votes. LORD SELBORNE declared it was with extreme pain he heard the observations of the Duke of Somerset. If the charge that Mr. Gladstone had coquetted with those who desired the dismemberment of the empire were true, all the members of the late Government must be involved in the accusation, but he repudiated the charge with indignation. With regard to the dissolution of Parliament, he believed that, if precedents were examined, it would not be found that the step taken by the late Government was unusual. LORD GREY said he quite concurred in the observations which had fallen from the Duke of Somerset. LORD DERBY observed that there was one topic in the royal speech on which they could all agree, and that was the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh with the Grand Duchess Alexandrovna. Though royal marriages might not be deemed, in the present day, of high political importance, yet this one must be deemed a pledge of friendship between two great empires. With regard to the Indian famine, LORD SALISBURY would take the earliest opportunity of explaining to Parliament the measures rendered necessary by the calamity. The real difficulty was not the want of funds or of food, but of the means of transport for carrying food to the places where it was needed.

The address to the Crown was then agreed to.

In the Commons on Thursday there was a good deal of preliminary business. A considerable number of members still had to be sworn in, and the SPEAKER read a letter from the Lord Chief Justice relative to Mr. Whalley's contempt of court. Afterwards came a long series of notices of motion. The SPEAKER then read the speech, and Sir WILLIAM STIRLING-MAXWELL, dressed in the uniform of the Scottish Archers, moved the address in an able speech, in the course of which he described the recent dissolution as an “elaborate surprise”—“a pit dug for the Conservatives into which the Liberals had fallen,” and the result of which was the waste of much of the time available for the preparation and carrying of measures. In conclusion, he expressed his gratification that Mr. Gladstone had not abandoned the lead of the Liberal party, and while congratulating Mr. Disraeli on the triumph he had deserved by his consistency, patience, and courage, he predicted that it would be used with moderation for the benefit of the community at large. Mr. R. CALLENDER, in the uniform of a deputy-lieutenant, seconded the motion for the address; and Mr. TORRENS moved an amendment expressing the readiness of the House to concur in measures not only for the amelioration of the present distress in Bengal, but to prevent its recurrence for the future. This having been seconded without remark by Mr. RICHARD,

MR. GLADSTONE rose and spoke at some length in defence of the recent dissolution, but with much calmness and moderation. He doubted the necessity of any such amendment as Mr. Torrens had moved, the terms of the address being sufficiently wide. With the address itself he so far generally concurred that it was unnecessary for him to criticise it except on one or two points. Speaking of the Ashantee war, Mr. Gladstone explained that the late Government had not called Parliament together before commencing the expedition, because it would have compelled a postponement of warlike operations until next year. As to the appointment of a Royal Commission to consider the labour laws, Mr. Gladstone doubted its desirability, contending that a Royal Commission would not command the

same confidence as the House of Commons, and that the subject was not so recondite as to need further illustration. He remarked next on the tone of Sir William Stirling-Maxwell's speech, which he said was unprecedented, at least of late years, in moving the address. In regard to the late dissolution, the simple possession of a Parliamentary majority, he maintained, did not justify any Government in retaining office unless it coincided with the sense of the country. The by-elections during the recess had led the late Government to consider seriously whether their majority did express the feeling of the country, and when it became apparent from the state of the revenue that they would be able to offer the country large financial relief, they felt the imperative necessity of being endued with a larger amount of authority than they apparently enjoyed. That was the reason of the dissolution, and he did not regret it. Its justification was its result, which was a larger transfer of seats from one party to the other than had ever occurred since 1831. Though he could not but think the decision of the constituencies wrong, he admitted that it was emphatic. The present Government had acceded to power by the act of the country, and it had every title therefore to be fairly tried, without any factious opposition, and to have the opportunity of placing its policy and its principles before the country.

MR. DISRAELI replied briefly in a rather dull speech. He recommended Mr. Torrens to withdraw the amendment, reminding him that a bill was to be introduced dealing with the Bengal famine. He disclaimed the intention of gaining time by the appointment of a royal commission on the Labour Laws, and denied that it would necessarily prevent legislation this year. The commissioners who had consented to serve were the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Winaerleigh, Mr. Bouverie, the Recorder of London, Sir Montague Smith, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Goldney, Mr. Macdonald, and Mr. T. Hughes. Although he thought Mr. Gladstone's reasons for not having called Parliament together before commencing the Ashantee expedition fallacious, he preferred not to enter into any captious controversy on a war which must be regarded as concluded, and in which the skill and energy of our commander and the admirable qualities of our soldiers had been so signally displayed. Neither did he think it incumbent on him to enter into Mr. Gladstone's defence of the dissolution. With its results Mr. Disraeli said he was quite satisfied. (Cheers and laughter.)

MR. PELL having made some remarks on local taxation, Mr. Torrens withdrew his amendment, and the motion for the address was agreed to.

### THE BENGAL FAMINE.

In the Lords on Friday the Marquis of SALISBURY, in laying upon the table papers relating to the famine in India, entered on a short history of the districts affected, and approved to a great extent of the course pursued by the Governor-General. No blame could be attached to Lord Northbrook for not having made earlier preparations, because, until the rains fell, although there had been some apprehensions, it was impossible to tell which parts would be affected, and if arrangements had been made efforts might have been expended in an entirely wrong direction. If the Governor-General had attempted to restrict the exports, a panic would have been created among the native dealers and an artificial scarcity might have been added to the real famine. The main difficulty was the transport. It was proposed to raise a loan of 10,000,000*l.*, of which 3,000,000*l.* only would be required at present, the remainder brought down to meet possible emergencies in the future. The efforts now made would be conducted in the same spirit as those of the previous Government, and ten steamers were to be sent out for the purpose of carrying grain up the smaller rivers wherever possible. Agreement to the address formed the only other business of the evening, and the House adjourned at an early hour.

### MR. WHALLEY AND THE PRIVILEGE QUESTION.

In the Commons on Friday, in reference to his recent imprisonment and the letter of Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, Mr. Whalley occupied the attention of the House for upwards of three-quarters of an hour. MR. WHALLEY stated that the contempt for which he suffered imprisonment consisted of the publication of an opinion he still entertained, that a “particular person committed for perjury” had not been guilty in the instance to which he, while the trial was pending, had referred. If any member was ever entitled to the privileges of Parliament, he (Mr. Whalley) was entitled, and he therefore moved that the letter of the Lord Chief Justice be referred to the Committee of Privileges to examine and report thereon. MR. DISRAELI, declaring himself to be unacquainted with the circumstances of this particular case, and viewing the matter in the serious light of privilege, thought a *prima facie* case had been brought before the House, but suggested that instead of the cumbersome process of the Committee of Privileges, the more facile operation of a select committee should be adopted. MR. WHITBREAD pointed out the gravity of the consequences of the imprisonment of a member by any judge at a time when the member might possibly be required for re-election. MR. LOWE explained that the appointment of the committee could not be regarded as conveying the slightest reflection on the Lord Chief Justice. Thanking the House for the indulgence afforded him, the hon. member for Peterborough accepted the select committee, and the question was disposed of accordingly.

## THE HOME RULE QUESTION.

On the bringing up of the report on the address, Mr. BUTT rose to move his threatened amendment, expressing the dissatisfaction in Ireland with the existing system of government in that country, and suggesting that exclusively Irish affairs should be left to Irish members without any interference with, or any separation from, the British Empire. He pointed to the late elections as indicating the feeling of the country, and he explained that all they required was that power of local self-government which was now possessed by the colonies. The Prime Minister, he said, who had now by his own genius raised himself for the first time to actual power, might add unrivalled brilliancy to his reputation if he could restore peace and prosperity to Ireland. Cheers from Irish members, judiciously given, were accorded to the hon. member, but found no echo from the body of the House. Mr. BROOKS, Lord Mayor of Dublin, seconded the amendment.

Conservative opposition was vigorously led off by Mr. CHAPLIN, who attributed much of the dissatisfaction in Ireland to the policy of the late Government, and who ran at length over a series of acts by the late Government which, he said, had led to the general election.

Mr. GLADSTONE, taking advantage of an opportunity afforded by the conclusion of remarks by Mr. Newdegate, defended the course he had pursued in resigning office, chiefly on the ground of the inconvenience and delay that would have attended a protracted debate, which must have led to the result which he anticipated. On the question before the house the right hon. gentleman showed uncompromising hostility to the amendment. Were Irish members to judge by themselves the course to be pursued on affairs exclusively Irish, and then to come over and judge of the affairs exclusively English? What were Irish affairs, and who were to judge what affairs were exclusively Irish? Was the fact of twelve Irish prisoners lying in an English dungeon to be regarded as a purely Irish affair? These and similar questions were put with much animation and received with general cheering. In a like forcible and trenchant manner the right hon. gentleman disposed of the attacks that had been made on his Government with respect to their action on the licensed victuallers, the Irish Church, and the Irish land.

Lord ROBERT MONTAGU, in his new capacity as member for Westmeath, speaking from the place below the gangway occupied in the late Parliament by Professor Fawcett, claimed self-government as an old Tory doctrine, and asked for Ireland the same privileges that were enjoyed by Jersey, the Isle of Man, and the colonies.

Sir M. HICKS BEACH, Chief Secretary for Ireland, argued that the restrictive regulations in that country were felt only by a few culpable persons, and did not affect the bulk of the population. Members for Ireland who had any complaint to make on this score had power to bring in bills for the redress of grievances, and such bills, he was sure, would receive the attentive consideration of the House. For his own part he asked hon. members to believe that he would strive to act impartially, but he would endeavour to enforce the law without fear and with firmness.

Mr. SULLIVAN, the new member for Louth, followed with a lively speech, in the course of which he appealed strongly to the assembly before him to terminate the long run of hatred between the two countries and to introduce a period of love.

Sir GEORGE BOWYER added a few words, and then Mr. BUTT rose and requested permission to withdraw his motion, but on this request being refused by the voice of the House, the debate was continued by Mr. Redmond and Sir J. M'Kenna, and by a few sharp remarks from The O'Donoghue, who accused the mover of the amendment of having made use of a "feint" to attract Irish members. The first division of the session, forced on by the Ministerialists, resulted in a victory for the Government by 314 against 50. The report on the address was then agreed to.

The House of Commons met on Saturday for the purpose of passing certain excess and supplementary votes.

On going into committee of supply, Mr. DISRAELI moved that Mr. Cecil Raikes do take the chair, and, the motion having been agreed to, he became Chairman of Committees and Deputy-Speaker for this Parliament.

On an excess vote of 260,000*l.* for the civil service of 1872-73 being moved, Mr. W. H. SMITH explained, in reply to criticism from Mr. Monk and Mr. Dillwyn, that an item relating to the Post Office service had no connection with what is known as the "telegraphs scandal" of last year, but was made necessary by the imperfect experience of the telegraph service possessed by the officials when the original estimate was moved.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a vote of 800,000*l.* on account of the Ashantee war, the total cost of which he estimated at 900,000*l.* Sir J. HAY moved the reduction of the item for the transport of troops by 15,000*l.*, the price paid for the Dromedary, late the Briton. He should be the last to challenge expenditure on a glorious expedition which had earned credit for all engaged in it, but ordinary votes for transports were for the hire of ships, whereas the Briton, belonging to the African Steamship Company, had been bought, and was at present on the effective force of the navy.

Mr. SHAW LEFEBRE at some length defended the purchase of the Dromedary, and said that her officers reported favourably as to her capabilities for the service. After some remarks from Mr.

LIDDELL and Mr. DILLWYN, Mr. WARD HUNT said he accepted the explanation which had been given. He would have the ship properly surveyed, and it would then be his duty to decide whether she should be retained in the service or sold. Mr. GOSCHEN remarked that if his successor in office should have to provide for a similar expedition to the one just terminated, he trusted he would be as fortunate as he had been in procuring only one store ship or transport regarding which hostile criticism would be excited, and that he would be able to give an equally good account of an expenditure of 900,000*l.* Sir JOHN HAY then withdrew his amendment, and the vote was agreed to. A number of formal votes were then passed, and the House adjourned.

## STATE OF THE NAVY.

In the House of Lords on Monday the Earl of LAUDERDALE drew an alarmist picture of the state of the navy. As far as he could make out, the country did not possess more than ten efficient seagoing ironclads at the present moment, and that constituted a very insufficient number, considering that 229 ironclads were built or being built for foreign Powers. He also complained of the want of power in point of speed and of the inefficient armour-plating of some of our ironclads. After a few words from Lord MALMESBURY, who said it would be premature to state the plans of the Government, Lord CAMPERDOWN gave an explanation of the naval policy of the late Administration. A great many of the ships came in to be repaired at once, and owing to the enormous weight of the machinery, more men were required than had been anticipated. Admitting that some of the iron coating could be pierced by six-and-a-half ton guns—admitting also that it was a question whether it was advisable to spend the 70,000*l.* that would be required to repair certain ships of the Minotaur class—he still doubted whether the navy was in the deplorable condition mentioned, but was rather inclined to believe that the noble lord had overlooked the depreciation among the 229 foreign ships. It was not reasonable to contrast the entire force of the fleets of all other Powers with the Navy of England alone, and he maintained that this country was laying down and building more ships than any other single country in the world. The Duke of SOMERSET observed that it would be most unfair to blame any Board of Admiralty for not repairing some ships which might not be worth the cost of repair, but the fact was that there had been an insufficiency of strength in the dockyards for the real work required to be done, and he suggested that the Admiralty should go steadily on adding, year by year, some vessels to the navy.

The Earl of LIMERICK, in moving for certain returns, raised a debate on the state of the militia, contending that no encouragement was given to really respectable persons to join that branch of the service. Lord LANSDOWNE conceived that the fact that during the course of last year no less than between 25,000 and 26,000 recruits joined the militia was a very good proof that recruiting for the militia was not entirely standing still. The effect of recent changes had been to leave the militiaman very much as he stood before, or if there was any difference, it was rather in his favour. The motion for the returns was then agreed to.

## INCOME-TAX EXEMPTION.

In the Commons on Monday, Mr. SANDFORD, seconded by Lord A. RUSSELL, moved a resolution in favour of exempting incomes under 500*l.* a year from the income-tax. This, he declared, was the only mode of relieving the pressure of the tax and of getting rid of dishonest returns. Mr. SCOURFIELD protested strongly against the practice of trying to obtain premature declarations against particular taxes from the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. LAING, while deprecating a premature discussion of Mr. Gladstone's financial programme, especially in his absence, argued at length against the total abolition of the income-tax. He described it as the keystone of our financial system, dwelling on its value as an instrument for the reduction of more oppressive taxes, for the adjustment of taxation fairly among all classes, and for the reduction of debt. He insisted that if it were abolished no relief could be given to local taxation, nor should we see another surplus for many years to come. Moreover, he doubted whether it was so universally unpopular—indicating other taxes, such as the malt tax, railway passenger duties, &c., the removal of which had more earnest advocates. He agreed, however, that the tax was capable of many improvements. Further representations of a similar tenor by Mr. HERMON and Mr. LEWIS drew forth a suggestion from Mr. HORSMAN that, as the whole subject must be discussed on a future occasion, it would be desirable then to proceed to the orders of the day. Very brief was the reply of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER to the arguments that had been adduced. He simply thanked all those who had taken part in the debate for the contributions they had made, and declined, amid some laughter, to risk the commission of indiscretion by further remark.

## SUPPLY.

The House having gone into Committee of Supply, Mr. HUNT and Mr. HARDY made an appeal on behalf of their respective departments to be allowed to take a vote of credit for 2,000,000*l.* each, without making the usual statement. Mr. Hardy held out a hope that he should be able to explain the Army Estimates on Monday next, but Mr. Hunt said it would be impossible for him to make

any statement before Easter. Mr. GOSCHEN supported the appeal, and no objection being taken, the following votes of credit were agreed to:—2,000,000*l.* for the Naval Services; 2,000,000*l.* for the Army Services; 1,886,600*l.* for the Civil Services; 1,226,000*l.* for the Revenue Departments.

The East India Loan Bill was read a second time, and bills were brought in by Mr. Butt and Mr. Bryan to assimilate the Irish Electoral and Municipal Franchise to the English law.

## RADICAL SPEECHES.

Professor Fawcett addressed a crowded meeting of the electors of Hackney on Friday at the Town-hall, Shoreditch. Long before the doors were thrown open the hall was besieged, and the thoroughfare was completely blocked. As soon as the doors were opened the hall was crammed to suffocation, and hundreds were unable to obtain admission. Mr. Turner took the chair. Sir C. Reed, M.P., Mr. Samuda, M.P., Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Holms, M.P., Mrs. Fawcett, and one or two Indian gentlemen in native dress occupied seats on the platform. A requisition signed by about 5,000 electors inviting Mr. Fawcett to become a candidate in the event of a vacancy in the representation of the borough, was presented to the hon. gentleman by Mr. J. A. Picton. Mr. Fawcett then spoke at considerable length upon the Indian famine, the leadership of the Liberal party, the appropriation of the surplus, local taxation, the education question, and other topics of the day. A resolution adopting him as a candidate for the borough was moved by Mr. Lowe, a working man, and supported by Dr. Aspland, Mr. C. Meen Askuya, and Mr. A. Cohen, Q.C., and carried amid great cheering.

A Radical demonstration took place on Thursday in the Temperance Hall, Sheffield. It was preceded by a tea, at which between four and five hundred persons were present. The demonstration was in honour of Mr. J. Chamberlain (the recent Radical candidate), who was accompanied by the Mr. R. W. Dale, of Birmingham. A resolution expressing high appreciation of Mr. Chamberlain's services having been adopted, the hon. gentleman addressed the meeting. Mr. Chamberlain referred at some length to the recent election for the borough, and was proud of having polled 11,000 votes. As to the local causes of his defeat he would say nothing. The so-called party of moderation had not gained much out of the general election. They would be ground between the upper and the nether mill-stones.

These moderate gentlemen have fallen everywhere. I do not think, for my part, that it is worth while being moderate, for you will be defeated just as much as if you were a Radical. (Laughter and cheers.) The defeat for them is everything. In the defeat of the Liberal party they lose place, and position, and credit, and station, and everything. We lose nothing, for we had nothing to lose. (Laughter and cheers.) I do not suppose that Lord Sandon will be any more hostile to us than Mr. Forster was before him. I do not suppose that Mr. Cross will receive deputations from working classes less graciously than Mr. Lowe. (Laughter.) I am sure that Mr. Disraeli cannot be more ecclesiastically inclined than Mr. Gladstone was before him. Then I say we have nothing to fear. The only difference I can see between the position of the advanced Liberals now and a year ago is this—that whereas from the last Government we expected little and got nothing—(laughter)—from the present Government we expect nothing and we may get a good deal. (Laughter.) You will see from what I have said that I do not desire and I do not expect the reconstruction of the Liberal party upon the old basis, upon the old premises. I look for the formation of a new Liberal—of a new Radical party—(cheers)—knowing what it means, expressing its objects with definiteness, and appealing to the people from the privileged class, if it is found necessary to do so. (Cheers.) I believe that we may employ the next few years with advantage in educating and organising the working classes throughout the country; and if we succeed in this we shall be able to do without the Whigs—they can join the Tories. What is to be the character of the new programme? I hold that the first condition of success is a more cordial, a more thorough union between the Nonconformists as a body and the working classes. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) It was by this alliance we achieved in the past the successes of which we are now most proud. It is only by such an alliance that we can march again to victory. (Great cheering.) Formerly the Dissenters found money and direction, and the working classes found all the strength and force of political movements. Recently there seems to have grown up almost the coolness of suspicion and mistrust amongst these classes. (Hear, hear.) You won't find the working classes have any sympathy with merely sectarian aims. They want to see some broad principle at stake, involving national interests, before they are deeply moved, and they complain. Rightly or wrongly, they believe that Nonconformists who are close to them, have shown little sympathy with the agricultural labourers in the counties, or with the claims of the artisans in the towns. It seems to me that such want of sympathy can proceed only from want of reflection, from misconception. It seems to me that it is our first duty to heal the breach—if breach there be—and bring about a better understanding between these two great sections of the Liberal party. (Cheers.) So long as the Nonconformists confine themselves to such questions as the Burials Bill and the 25th Clause, so long I believe the working classes will see in this merely a squabble between sects, with which they have no concern. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) If, however, they would make their policy part of the great national programme; if they would cordially unite with the working classes in their claims for justice; if they would make disestablishment and disendowment one only of a series of great reforms which are to be sought by the

alliance of parties, both of which should seek first their own objects, but should be pledged to continue the fight until the whole programme has been achieved, then I venture to say they would have the hearty co-operation of the bulk of the working classes. My only fear is that before we have time to make a free church and free labour—the first items in our programme—the Tories themselves might anticipate us. Mr. Disraeli has educated his party before now: he may be willing to educate it again, and we may yet have landlords and Churchmen appealing, not unsuccessfully, for the gratitude of the working classes, on the ground that they had conceded to them the justice which was refused to them by Liberals and Dissenters. (Cheers.)

He was anxious to see Nonconformists as much opposed to class prejudices as they were to caste supremacy. They would then get an effective alliance with the working classes, and ensure a Liberal reaction. (Cheers.) In a brief space we would see a new awakening. Great purposes would again stimulate and justify great exertions, noble and high enterprise would prevent the continuance of this degrading listlessness, and calling forth all the ancient enthusiasm, would evoke all the old fire which only awaited its call. (Loud and continued cheering.)

Mr. R. W. DALL, of Birmingham, who was received with loud cheering, said he was not disposed to utter lamentation and woe for the defeat of the Radical party in Sheffield, or to regret Mr. Chamberlain's absence from the House of Commons just now as an unalloyed misfortune. His opinion was that the work of the advanced Liberals for some years to come lay not in the House of Commons, but in the country. (Hear, hear.) The Liberal party had sustained a very great and disastrous defeat. The causes which had led to that defeat had been analysed by political chemists—(laughter)—they had been discussed in political journals and in political speeches until they were almost weary of the inquiry. They were told sometimes that the Liberal party had been defeated because the publicans went against it. (Laughter.) If the Liberal party could not do without the publicans, the Liberal party was not worth its salt. (Cheers.) Then they were told that the defeat was to be explained by the fact that very many members of the late Government were extremely discourteous and unpopular in the House of Commons. He believed the party deserved to be defeated, that it had not within it the resources which rendered victory possible. Its present external position fairly represented its real condition. He was in no hurry to have the Liberal party reorganised. He thought they should do well to let it remain for a time in its present inorganic condition. (Hear.) It lay with the great constituencies to determine what the future history of the Liberal party was to be. Unless they had made up their minds—unless they could induce the great mass of their fellow-townsmen to make up their minds as to what the Liberal programme was to be—the Liberal party could not be brought together again. He believed that nothing would be more certain to give intellectual life, and vigour, and self-respect to the agricultural labourers of this country than to invest them with political responsibilities. (Hear, hear.) Difficult and perplexing questions were springing up from time to time and attracting great public attention in reference to the relation between employers and employed. He supposed that all of them agreed upon this, that these questions should be settled, not so as to promote the interests of a class—for such a settlement must be precarious and transient—but on principles which should commend themselves to the conscience of the nation. (Hear.) The question of our poor-laws would require the most serious and courageous investigation of those who had the administration of our national affairs; and if the period of amazing commercial prosperity they had had of late should suddenly pass away, the condition of the poor of this country would become one of the most perplexing and difficult questions for any statesman to deal with. (Hear, hear.) He asked all thoughtful members of the advanced Liberal party to take up this question in time, and consider the principles by which the settlement of it should be governed. Referring to the question of education, Mr. Dale observed that the advanced Liberal party were agreed in this, that the whole of the people ought to be educated; that a child had as much right to receive the elements of instruction which were necessary for the development and sustenance of its intellectual life as to receive the food which was necessary to sustain its physical life; and that as Government protected its right to the one it should protect its right to the other. They asked, therefore, for a universal compulsory law enforcing the attendance of all children at school. (Hear, hear.) They asked, further, that schools which received any portion of public money should be under the control, not of private and self-elected managers, but under that of the representatives of the rate-payers. (Hear, hear.) Referring to the question of religious education, he said his conviction was that if they were to have schools largely sustained by public money, and under the control of the representatives of the people, such schools must provide secular instruction, and secular instruction only. With reference to the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church of England, he said it was quite time for them to place that question in the foremost rank. Whatever might be the origin of these endowments—he had his own theory about that, and that was a very definite one—it was perfectly clear that they were intended to provide a benefit and an advantage for the nation as a whole. It seemed to him a most religious thing to

use revenues which were now applied to the religious instruction of a section of the community in order to provide for the poor of the nation. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that those who represented the advanced Liberal party of this borough were prepared to take their share in the great movement necessary for the disestablishment and disendowment of the English Church. Let them not be disheartened by temporary defeat. Advanced Liberalism was destined from its very nature to constantly recurring defeat. When it became triumphant, it was advanced Liberalism no longer. He asked them by all the legitimate means of political agitation to make the nation Radical, and then their legislation would be Radical. (Loud cheers.)

#### THE BENGAL FAMINE.

The following is the weekly telegram sent by the Viceroy of India, and dated March 21:—"Prices nearly stationary; rise in some parts of Eastern Bengal. Reports of spring crops good everywhere, except in Tirhoot. It is thought that rain of February has placed several districts beyond reach of famine. Trade brings 1,700 tons a day into Behar, and very large quantities of private grain awaiting despatch at railway-stations in Punjab. Government grain is being despatched up East Indian Railway at rate of 2,000 tons a day; up Eastern Bengal Railway 800 tons a day. Lieutenant-Governor, after visiting Tirhoot, reports that on arrival, he found famine of considerable severity had set in through parts of Durbunga Subdivision. People were flocking to relief works in enormous numbers. Local organisation for relief was incomplete. There was no dearth of supplies, but prices were high; population at large not seriously affected, but many of poorest classes much pinched, and a few of most wretched had reached point of starvation; only three or four deaths recorded, but it is feared that a few more may have suffered of whom we have no full information. Organisation now improved; village to village relief in detail being pressed on. Every effort being made to draught off people from relief works to their homes, but difficulties are considerable, as they prefer remaining on works. Lieutenant-Governor reports that widely-spreading want has been stayed. In a part of Champaran there has been a marked change for worse in condition of people, but local organisation good and equal to occasion. Village relief system in working order; no deaths reported. From several parts it is reported that if it had not been for measures taken by Government there would have been many thousand starvation deaths before this. In some parts Government grain is being sold to general population. Sir R. Temple has visited whole of Rajshahy Division. Reports transport arrangement in Rajshahy satisfactory; no deaths from want. His estimates for requirements of all distressed districts now complete. Total amount of grain now allotted, 387,500 tons, which gives a reserve over requirements of 49,000 tons; additional reserve unallotted, 78,000 tons; total reserve, 127,000 tons; total provision, 465,000 tons. Calculations have been based for safety on daily ration of 1½ lb. instead of 1 lb. as heretofore. Further ample food supplies available in Punjab."

The children are dying fast (says an Indian telegram to the *Daily News*); the labour test is breaking down; the whole population is thronging to the relief works to enjoy comparative idleness. Tillage for the next crop is thus neglected. The *Times* correspondent states that 42,100 persons are receiving relief in Tirhoot, and he adds that in the Benares districts and Banda the harvest prospects have improved, except in North Goruckpore. The Mansion House relief fund amounted on Saturday to about 56,000*l*.

The weekly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Bengal Famine Relief Fund was held at the Mansion House on Thursday. The secretary reported that the subscriptions received amounted to 58,466*l*, of which over 8,000*l* had been paid in since the last meeting of the committee. Of that sum 45,000*l* had already been sent to India. The Lord Mayor said that during the week he had had a good deal of correspondence with the authorities of many provincial towns, and he was glad to announce that funds had been started at, and remittances received from, Bolton, Carlisle, Chester-le-Street, Oldham, Norwich, Bristol, Ipswich, Cambridge, and other places. A fund would also be opened in a day or two at Huddersfield. There was some discussion respecting the letter published by the Bishop of Manchester last week, and Mr. Denison, M.P., and Lord Lawrence both disclaimed any intention of showing any disrespect to Dr. Fraser. Lord Lawrence said they also remembered that both on the bishop's side in the matter and on theirs there was a good deal to be urged. His lordship added that it was quite a mistake and a delusion to suppose that they were doing what the Government ought to do, and that the work of private committees could not go on at the same time. The telegram of Mr. Forbes, of the *Daily News*, gave a very sad account of the famine, but it did not exceed the anticipations of the committee. Things had always looked very black and bad, and he believed they would yet become far worse than ever, in spite of every human effort to prevent it. Referring to the proposed Indian loan, Lord Lawrence said he hoped the Government had not yet exhausted their proposals, but if the English people were not going to do more than to allow the Indian Government to borrow money in their market the latter might say, "Thank you for nothing," for any

country—France, Turkey, or Spain, for instance—could come here and borrow at a rate proportionate to the credit in which it was held. Looking at the undeveloped resources of India, its great poverty, and its want of more canals and roads, it would be a very hard and stiff measure to call on the Indian Government to do everything they ought to do, but not to help them in any degree to carry out their policy. Mr. Denison, M.P., said he believed that an imperial guarantee for the famine loan would have the effect of depreciating Indian credit in the future, and he would, therefore, rather see a donation of two or three millions given. Lord Lawrence and Mr. Dent, however, opposed the suggestion that Indian credit would be affected by a guarantee in this emergency. It was resolved to send a further sum of 15,000*l* to the central committee at Calcutta, making 60,000*l* in all.

#### THE EDUCATION ACT.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—At the meeting of the board on Wednesday a series of resolutions was adopted, on the motion of Dr. Rigg, instructing the statistical committee to consider and inquire whether, after the experience and information gained during the past three years, any modifications are necessary in the conclusions arrived at as to the number of children now remaining unprovided for in detail throughout the school board area.

THE WEST HAM SCHOOL BOARD election has just been held. The district under the board includes the populous neighbourhoods of Stratford, Canning-town, Plaistow, Forest-gate, &c. Three clergymen were candidates; two of them (one the vicar of the parish) were unsuccessful, and the third was placed at the bottom of the poll, the next above him being a brewer who was supported by the publicans. Two of the Unsectarian candidates headed the poll by a large majority. The board contains five Churchmen, five Unsectarians, and one Wesleyan.

THE TIPTON SCHOOL BOARD.—The election for this town was a decided victory of the Liberals, or Unsectarians, all of whose candidates—six in number—were returned. The board consists of nine members; and the Tories, who declined the proffer of a compromise, secured only three seats.

THE SCHOOL FEE QUESTION.—The Salford School Board have followed the example of Manchester in the matter of section three of the Elementary Education Act of 1873. They will continue to pay the fees of out-door pauper children as if the Act of last session had not passed. It will be remembered that before coming to a conclusion on this point the Manchester Board obtained the opinion of counsel and were assured that there was nothing in the Act of 1873 to deprive school boards of the power to continue to pay fees; and at Manchester, as at Salford, the board of guardians have shown no disposition to quarrel with the school board on the subject. It seems clear that no part of the operation of section twenty-five of the Act of 1870 was repealed by the Act of 1873, and it seems equally clear that it is not incumbent upon boards of guardians to pay the fees of out-door pauper children. All that the guardians are required to do is to see "that elementary education in reading, writing, and arithmetic shall be provided for such child," and to "give such further relief (if any) as may be necessary for that purpose." If the school board, under section twenty-five, insist upon continuing to pay the school fees of the children of out-door paupers it is obvious that no further relief "for that purpose" is necessary at the hands of the guardians, and so think the guardians of Manchester and those of Salford. But the duty of the guardians to refuse out-door relief to the parent whose child does not attend school remains, and therefore it is necessary for the guardians to look after the attendance of the children at school. This is done at Manchester and Salford by a friendly exchange of returns and information between the guardians and the school boards.—*School Board Chronicle*.

DAY-SCHOOLS TAKEN TO CHURCH.—The Rev. Alan Brodric, rector of Huggate, near Pocklington, Yorkshire, has written to ask the Education Department whether, with the managers' approval, and subject to a loyal carrying out of the conscience clause and the time-table, the children of an elementary school may be taken to church and catechised after the lessons by the resident clergymen in religious knowledge? In reply, Sir F. R. Sandford says that "my lords see no objection to the proposal, provided that the time-table is duly adhered to."

FORTHCOMING BILLS.—Two Bills in the House of Commons on the Education Act 1870, were issued yesterday. One, introduced by Mr. Richard, is to repeal the twenty-fifth clause of the Elementary Education Act, and the other, by Mr. Dixon, to amend the Act by making obligatory the formation of school boards, and the enactment of compulsory attendance by-laws in England and Wales.

#### THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S MARRIAGE TREATY.

The treaty between the Queen and the Emperor of Russia for the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh with the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrowna has been presented to Parliament and printed. The treaty, which consists of twenty-one articles, was signed at St. Petersburg on January 22, 1874, and the ratifications were exchanged on January 29. Article 3 provides that the duchess is not to be in any way hindered in the full, free, and unrestrained

exercise of the religious profession of the Orthodox Church, but shall nevertheless of her own free will accompany the duke to chapels and churches of the Established Churches of England and Scotland, and other Protestant churches and chapels and at all times when it shall be fitting that she should assist at ceremonies and other public acts which may take place therein. Children born of the marriage are to be brought up as Protestants. By Article 5 the Emperor assigns to his daughter the usual marriage portion granted to emperors' daughters, of 1,000,000 roubles (about 150,000*l.*) which is to remain for ever in Russia, and bear interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum, which will be paid half-yearly to her imperial highness, who is to have the separate and exclusive enjoyment of it, and is to be at liberty to dispose of it by will. The Emperor also, "as a mark of his particular affection, and which is not to be considered as a precedent for the future," grants to the duchess an annual sum of 75,000 roubles (11,250*l.*) for life, which her royal highness is also to be at liberty to dispose of according to her own free will and pleasure. The Emperor also assigns to his daughter a special marriage portion of 1,000,000 roubles (150,000*l.*), to be dealt with in the same manner as the ordinary marriage portion. Her royal highness retains possession of her private capital, amounting when the treaty was signed to 600,000 roubles (90,000*l.*). There is to be only one household for the duke and duchess, and her imperial highness is to be at liberty to make any contribution she may please to the expenses of the joint establishment, but the debts and obligations of the duke and duchess are not to be common to both. If her royal highness should become a widow, she is to have 6,000*l.* a year from the English revenues, and is to be at liberty to live in any country she pleases; and at her death, whether she die before or after the duke, the marriage portions and interest and her private capital are to be appropriated for the benefit of her children. In the event of her royal highness dying before her husband and leaving no children, the duke is to have the enjoyment for life of the interest of the ordinary marriage portion of the duchess, and at his death it is to revert to the Emperor of Russia. The special marriage portion would at once revert to the Emperor in the event of the duchess dying before her husband, and without children. The only sum which would go absolutely to the duke would be a sum of 250,000 roubles (37,500*l.*), which is to be taken out of the marriage portion mentioned in Article 5, the interest on this sum being deducted from the interest on the marriage portion which, as already stated, his royal highness is to receive during his life.

#### THE JUBILEE SINGERS.

Last Wednesday evening the "Jubilee Singers," who are, as is well known, a company of coloured male and female students of Fisk University, U.S., gave their service of song in the Metropolitan Tabernacle. The vast building was crowded from floor to ceiling, and in itself was a most impressive sight. The effect was heightened by its being lighted for the first time throughout with Brommer's patented system of gas-lights and cornelian globes, by Messrs. Green, the well-known gas engineers. The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon presided, and in the course of some introductory remarks, said that the singers were working for God's cause, and had been favoured with His blessing. They had all but one given themselves to God when they first came to this country, and he was rejoiced to know that that one had also now decided for Jesus. The rev. gentleman offered a brief prayer, and then introduced the singers, who gave a series of choruses, duets, and solos, in the peculiar and plaintive tone of the African race. One little fact struck us as being somewhat remarkable. Several of the melodies were the tunes of old English ballads, sung by the Dorset and Somerset peasantry, but which are now fast dying out. We could even recognise the peculiar minor chords which seem to be equally characteristic of the English ballad and the negro sacred song. It may be accounted for by the fact that Virginia, one of the oldest slave-holding States, was settled principally from the south-western counties of England. One or two little incidents occurred in the course of the evening, which deserve notice. In one of the songs each denomination of Christians is mentioned by name. When the *Baptist* sang, a loud cheer broke from all parts of the building mingled with laughter. The singers seemed to be thoroughly appreciated by the vast audience, who cheered most enthusiastically, encoring so much, that Mr. Spurgeon was obliged to interfere on behalf of the lungs of the performers. During one of the intervals Mr. Spurgeon, at the request of the singers, presented them with the nineteen volumes of his sermons and an encyclopedia for the use of the university. In the course of his remarks the rev. gentleman said that the proceeds of the first concert at the Tabernacle amounted to 214*l.*, and that the singers had realised the sum required towards the building-fund, and what they now raised would be devoted to the purchase of scientific instruments, electrical machines, &c. "The professors might require galvanizing occasionally," which observation created much merriment. The venerable Dr. Moffat, who was loudly cheered, said that he was labouring under severe indisposition. He felt as if he was in Africa. It made him wish to go there again. Mr. Moffat, who was deeply affected, referring to the late Dr. Livingstone, said he had finished his course, but he had

opened up the centre of the country, so that from Fisk University Africans might now go and minister to the millions of their race. "Dear dear Africa! Our prospects are brightening." He was only too glad to tell them how happy he was, and he was sure they were all happy. Short and interesting addresses expressive of thanks to Mr. Spurgeon and his congregation were delivered by the male members of the Jubilee Singers. The statement that Mr. Gladstone was the first to present them with some books, and that Lord Shaftesbury had likewise sent them a handsome present, was greeted with loud applause. The proceedings terminated with the farewell song, "Swing low, sweet chariot." Eight of the eleven singers are emancipated slaves, the remaining three having been made free by the accidents of the slavery system. It is expected that about 500*l.* will be raised by the two concerts at the Tabernacle. The building was most generously lent to the singers without any charge whatsoever.

#### THE LATE ASHANTEE EXPEDITION.

The troops brought by the Tamar from the Gold Coast disembarked on Friday morning at Portsmouth, and were welcomed by the residents with the greatest enthusiasm. The streets through which they passed to the railway-station were crowded, and everything that patriotism could suggest was done in their honour. A handsome goat was presented to the Welsh Fusiliers, in the place of the fine animal which accompanied the regiment to Cape Coast, and died there. A general order was read, conveying to the troops Her Majesty's thanks for their services. The 23rd marched to the railway-station, and left shortly afterwards for Shorncliffe. They were very warmly welcomed on passing through Brighton, where, however, the train remained only a few minutes.

The Manitoban, which arrived at Spithead on Friday night with Sir Garnet Wolseley and his staff on board, steamed into Portsmouth Harbour on Saturday morning, and the gallant passengers at once landed. They were enthusiastically received by the officials of the place and the public. Sir Garnet promised the Mayor of Portsmouth that he would attend the banquet to be given there to the troops, but intimated that he should immediately have to leave England to recruit his health. The general and his staff arrived in London the same day, and were warmly cheered. Immediately after his arrival Sir Garnet reported himself at the War Department, and had an interview with Mr. Gathorne Hardy. On Sunday he went to Windsor to pay his respects to Her Majesty. On arriving at Windsor he was met at the station, on behalf of Her Majesty, by General Ponsonby, the Queen's Private Secretary; Colonel Gardiner, the Equerry-in-Waiting; and Sir John Cowell, the Master of the Household. Sir Garnet drove to the Castle in one of the royal carriages, and after remaining with the Queen about two hours, returned to town.

Before leaving Cape Coast Castle Sir Garnet Wolseley handed over the Government temporarily to Colonel Maxwell, of the 2nd West India Regiment. *The Morning Post* says:—"It is probable that Colonel Sir Garnet Wolseley will be at once confirmed in the rank of major-general, which he has hitherto only held locally, and that a pension of 1,500*l.* a year for two lives will be conferred on him. Sir Garnet brought with him the 1,000 ounces of gold which King Coffee has paid on account of the Ashantee indemnity."

The Sarmatian, with the 42nd Highlanders on board, arrived off Spithead from the Gold Coast at half-past two o'clock on Monday morning. She came into Portsmouth at ten o'clock, and the disembarkation commenced at two in the afternoon. The streets were lined with an immense crowd, who heartily cheered the returned troops. At the Governor's-green they were received by Major-General Viscount Templeton and his staff, together with the mayor and the members of the reception committee. Lord Templeton briefly addressed the men, complimenting them on their well-earned success. The Highlanders afterwards proceeded to their barracks. A deep gloom has been cast over the regiment by the receipt of intelligence of the death of Major Baird. This officer had served in the regiment for twenty years, had seen a great deal of service, and was much respected. He was wounded in the thigh at Amoafu, and died at Sierra Leone on the 6th inst. from an aneurism of the heart.

On Saturday the Duke of Cambridge, accompanied by General Sir Richard Airey, Sir Charles Russell, V.C., and Sir Alfred Horsford, visited the camp at Shorncliffe, and, on behalf of the Queen and country, thanked the troops who had returned from Ashantee for their gallant services, for the perseverance they had displayed in a victorious march through pathless jungles and deadly swamps, and for the courage exhibited at every step.

It is the intention of the Lord Mayor of London to invite Sir Garnet Wolseley and the other officers engaged in the Ashantee expedition to a banquet on an early day.

Governor Berkeley has received instruction from the Home Government to remain at Sierra Leone for the present, and the senior military officer will act as administrator upon the Gold Coast. The disturbances near Sierra Leone have been suppressed, and reparation has been made by the native chiefs. Captain Butler has been dangerously ill.

A Supplement to the *London Gazette* of Friday contains additional despatches respecting the Ashantee expedition. Captain Glover draws atten-

tion to the services of officers attached to the Volta Expedition. Commodore Hewett brings to the notice of the Admiralty "the high satisfactory manner" in which the officers, seamen, and marines of the squadron under his orders carried out their duties. "All, indeed," he says, "have realised my highest expectations; and in making mention of any who, under my own observation, especially distinguished themselves by their gallantry, zeal, or ability, I am anxious that their lordships should not underrate the value I set upon the services of those who, lacking an opportunity, were not so fortunate as to render themselves conspicuous."

The troops who have returned from the Ashantee expedition will be reviewed by Her Majesty in the Home Park at Windsor, on Monday next.

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Mexican advices state that the Protestant Chapel at Puebla has been attacked by a mob and the pastor stoned.

A Hungarian Cabinet has at length been formed, M. Betto being Premier. Ghyczy, the leader of the Centre, takes the Portfolio of Finance.

Berlin advices state that Prince Bismarck is slowly regaining strength, but that he has no appetite, and can only obtain sleep by means of sedatives.

The passage in the Queen's Speech relative to the observance of international obligations is regarded in political circles in France as a proof that England will for the future no longer hold aloof from the great political questions at stake on the continent.

The *Univers*, in reappearing for the first time since its suppression, publishes a letter from the Pope to M. Veuillot, in which His Holiness admonishes on those of the faithful who bend their heads to the storm which beats on the Church, and he gives M. Veuillot his benediction as one who is not guilty of compromise.

THE NEXT BATCH OF CARDINALS.—Monsignor Manning, Dechamps, Antici, Mattei, De Merode, Vitelleschi, Nina, Simeoni, and Bartolucci have received intimation that they will be elevated to the rank of cardinal at the next Consistory.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—A New York despatch says that Prince Kalakua has been elected King of the Sandwich Islands. The disappointed adherents of Queen Emma attacked and set fire to the House of Assembly, but some United States and British Marines landed and dispersed the mob. The King is still (the despatch adds) threatened with assassination.

MARRIAGE OF MISS FIELD.—Private letters from New York give glowing accounts of the marriage of Miss Grace Field, daughter of Mr. Cyrus Field, to Mr. Lindley, of that city. Fifteen hundred guests offered their congratulations to the bride and bridegroom, and the bridal presents are said to have been of the aggregate value of 100,000*l.*, or half a million of dollars.

THE GERMAN ARMY.—A Berlin telegram states that the War Minister has declared that, although he does not insist upon maintaining the peace effective at 401,659 men, it was necessary to fix an effective which would be acceptable to the Government; otherwise the bill could not be approved. The Minister (the despatch adds) tacitly accepted the minimum of 384,000 men proposed by the Conservative members of the committee. The National Liberal members wish to submit the matter to the Reichstag. The difference between them and the Government is confined to a question of 15,000 men, and it is not thought possible that it will give rise to a conflict.

DEPRESSION OF TRADE IN PARIS.—Our Paris correspondent (the *Manchester Examiner* says) draws rather a gloomy picture of the condition of trade in France. In Paris, he writes, it has almost entirely disappeared. Mills are being closed, and the workmen are starving. This state of things is, of course, producing widespread discontent, and it would seem that the unemployed classes do not hesitate to express their dissatisfaction in language of ominous import. Some of them profess to be not particular as to what kind of Government is set over them, so that it is a settled one and they can obtain work; but it is better, they say, to be killed or transported than to see their families suffering from hunger.

AN EXODUS OF NEGROES.—A strong commercial interest attaches to the fact that a very noticeable exodus of coloured people is in progress from the Eastern Gulf States across the Mississippi. The blacks are making for Texas. The *New Orleans Picayune* estimates that since 1870, 100,000 negroes have gone to that State, and 300,000 whites. It regards Texas as the safety-valve of the South, and has no fears that negro emigration there will exceed the white. In Alabama the departure of the blacks is consolidating a permanent Democratic power. In Mississippi and Louisiana, where the blacks were more numerous than the whites in 1870, there is a steady decline in their number; and the white vote will soon be the largest. Georgia finds it difficult to spare this labour, although her white labouring population is on the increase.

KING VICTOR EMMANUEL celebrated on Sunday the twenty-fifth anniversary of his accession. His receptions on the occasion lasted two hours. On Monday great rejoicings took place in Rome, the day being observed there and throughout Italy as a public holiday. His Majesty received upwards of 3,000 persons, including deputations from the civil

and military authorities, &c., and various congratulatory addresses were presented to him. In reply to one from the Senate, the King said that the work of national independence had been achieved, because respect had been shown for the independence of others and for religion. In reply to another address, His Majesty said that the unity of Italy was a pledge for the peace of Europe. When Rome became the capital of Italy a principle was established equally beneficial to civilisation and to religion. By way of counter-demonstration the Pope received the Noble Guards and various deputations. Prince Chigi read an address of fidelity to His Holiness, expressing firm confidence in the ultimate triumph of the Church. The Pope, in reply, made a speech which will shortly be published. He was loudly cheered.

**THE SEPTENNATE.**—The interpellation of the Left relative to the Duc de Broglie's circular to the prefects was rejected on Wednesday by a majority of sixty-two. A declaration, made by M. de Cazenove de Pradines, in the name of the Legitimists, that the interpretation placed by the Duc de Broglie upon the law giving to Marshal MacMahon supreme power for seven years was not a correct one, caused a profound sensation. In connection with this speech, Marshal MacMahon, in a letter to the Duc de Broglie, has republished the declaration made to the Tribunal of Commerce in January, that he would make the order of things established by the Septennate respected by all. It is proposed to adjourn the Assembly from the 28th of March to the 4th of May. The committee on the prolongation of the present term of the Municipal Councils on Friday decided against the bill. The French Ministers had a long sitting on Saturday to deliberate upon the creation of a second Chamber. An expectation had prevailed that a bill on the subject would be introduced before the adjournment of the Assembly for Easter, but the Paris correspondent of the *Times* thinks this hardly probable.

**THE SPOIL OF COOMASSIE.**—The *Daily News* correspondent with the Ashantee Expedition, writing from Cape Coast Castle on February 27, gives an account of the booty obtained at Coomassie by our forces. He says that the total value of the spoil was by no means so great as might have been expected. When the prize-agents entered the palace, they found everything packed for removal. Much, it is believed, had previously been taken away. It was at first thought that what was found would not have realised more than 2,000*l.*, the soldiers having been peremptorily forbidden to touch anything in Coomassie, even though everything was to be burnt. Many things were, however, afterwards taken from the released Fantee prisoners and natives, who could not be kept from pilfering, and it was thought that perhaps 6,000*l.* would be obtained by the sale of the property. The correspondent considers that the wealth of Ashantee has been enormously overrated. Had the country been properly cultivated and its resources developed, the king would, no doubt, have been easily able to pay such an indemnity as 200,000*l.* It is doubted, however, whether under present circumstances he could pay such a sum at all.

**THE EMPEROR WILLIAM.**—Sunday being the Emperor William's 77th birthday, the city was decorated with flags, displays being made not only on public buildings, but on many private houses. At night there was a general illumination. At 11 a.m. His Majesty attended Divine worship in the palace of the Imperial Crown Prince. At 1 p.m. many illustrious personages, including the King and Queen of Saxony, the Grand Dukes of Baden, Weimar, and Mecklenburg, and the Dukes of Altenburg and Saxe-Meiningen, arrived in carriages at the palace. An immense crowd assembled in front of the royal residence, Unter den Linden, and gave enthusiastic cheers for His Majesty. The generals of the army waited upon the Emperor in the morning to express their congratulations, and, in reply to an address delivered by Field-Marshal von Wrangel, His Majesty said:—"Receive my thanks for the wishes you have uttered for the improvement of my health. They are this year especially welcome, and I think I may hope that they will be fulfilled." Turning to all the assembled generals, His Majesty added:—"I thank you also for the sentiments which the general field-marshal has just expressed on your behalf. Inasmuch as you appear before me as the representatives of my army, I cannot conceal from you the fact that such a crisis again appears to be hanging over it. What at a former period I for four years strove for, maintained, and accomplished from a sense of duty and conviction met with its reward in the successes, great beyond all expectation, achieved by my army and that of my allies. This feeling gives me courage to persevere again now. I adhere to that which has stood the test of experience, not with a view to bringing about war, but in order to secure European peace. Continue as hitherto to afford me support for this purpose by your faithful services." The *Cologne Gazette* says that the cheerfulness shown by the German Emperor at Sunday's festivities has been the subject of universal remark. His Majesty received all who came to offer congratulations in person, went to church in the morning, and appeared in excellent spirits at the dinner given in honour of the day by the Crown Prince. Fifty-seven sat down to dinner, all of them members of reigning families. In the evening there was a dramatic entertainment in the Imperial Palace, to which about 550 persons had been asked. The Emperor, leading the Empress, moved about freely among his guests, conversing with them in the most cheerful manner.

#### SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

The first performance in London of Macfarren's oratorio, *St. John the Baptist*, was given by the above society last Friday evening at Exeter Hall, before a very large audience. The work was composed for the Bristol Musical Festival of last autumn, where it was received with unusual favour. The libretto, compiled by Mr. E. G. Monk from the Scriptures, is divided into two parts, the first dealing with the advent of the Baptist and the incidents of his career in the wilderness; and the second setting forth his reproof of Herod's sin, depicting the scene at the banquet followed by the martyrdom of the preacher, and introducing reflections on the entire subject. The principal characters introduced are St. John the Baptist, Herod, and the daughter of Herodias, another prominent part being assigned to the narrator of the events. These were respectively sustained by Mr. Santley, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Madame Sherrington, and Miss Antoinette Sterling. The overture is a brilliant and elaborate composition, introducing by anticipation, as is not unusual, some of the more important features of the work, the most prominent being the trumpet-call, which will at once be recognised as singularly appropriate to the subject. This overture has been several times heard in public, and its masterly performance on the present occasion confirmed the favourable impression it had already made, and was loudly applauded. It was succeeded by a majestic chorus, "Behold, I will send my messenger." Then came a highly expressive song "Repent ye," followed by the dialogue of St. John with the people who came to be baptized, and this by another song, "I indeed baptize you with water," in all of which Mr. Santley's well-known voice and ability appeared to great advantage. Then followed a short chorus for female voices, preceded by an introduction and sustained by an accompaniment of harp and muted violins, "This is my beloved Son." This, though somewhat recalling a movement in Wagner's *Lohengrin*, is so picturesque, and was so delicately rendered, that the audience insisted on its repetition. A similar honour was awarded to the chorus, "My soul praise the Lord," which concludes the first part. This chorus consists of a masterly arrangement of the Old 104th Psalm-tune, followed by a well-wrought fugue on its first phrase, the entire melody being most ingeniously interwoven in prolonged notes for the brass instruments. After it had been twice given, the venerable composer was loudly called for, and bowed his acknowledgments from one of the side galleries. Space does not permit us to say more of the second part than that an especial interest was imparted to the banquet scene by the oriental character of the music, and that the quartet "Blessed are they," following the execution, was so exquisitely sung by the principal vocalists, that it had to be repeated. At the conclusion of the performance, Mr. Macfarren was again called for, and received a perfect ovation. The execution, both vocal and instrumental, throughout gave evidence of the most careful preparation on the part of all concerned, under the guidance of their unrivalled conductor, Sir Michael Costa.

The *Messiah* is announced for next Wednesday, April 1, with Mesdames Sinico and Trebelli-Bettini, and Messrs. Sims Reeves and Santley as principal vocalists.

#### DEPUTATIONS TO MINISTERS.

Lord Derby, in answer to a deputation from the Chamber of Commerce on Friday, agreed that the patent laws were capable of improvement, and it would afford him pleasure to obtain information on the subject.

Sir Charles Adderley promised a deputation from the Chamber of Commerce that he would seriously consider the grievances with reference to light dues on shipping.

A deputation waited upon Mr. Disraeli, to urge the necessity of appointing a Minister of Commerce. Mr. Disraeli thought opinion, generally, was against such an appointment, but promised "full consideration."

A deputation waited upon the Home Secretary pointing out the desirability of assimilating the Workshop and Factory Acts. Mr. Cross hoped to deal with the subject in an impartial and comprehensive spirit.

A deputation pointed out to the Home Secretary the numerous railway accidents, and the necessity for a royal commission to investigate the matter. Mr. Cross thought the subject concerned the Board of Trade, but promised his "best attention."

A deputation asked Lord John Manners to extend the telegraphic communication to Lundy Island, and to reduce the tariff on messages. His lordship

said the extension to Lundy would be accomplished shortly, and promised attention to the other question.

Lord Derby, replying to deputations, promised to call the attention of the French Government to the taxes levied on British commerce. He thought the reduction of duties on Spanish wines would encourage illicit distillation.

A deputation, composed of members of the Central Chamber of Agriculture and of the Metropolitan Poor Law and Local Taxation League, had an interview with Mr. Disraeli on Monday, for the purpose of urging upon the right hon. gentleman the desirability of more equally adjusting the burden of local taxation. Lord Hampton and Mr. Bromley-Davenport, M.P., introduced the deputation. After several gentlemen had spoken, Mr. Disraeli said that the views of the deputation did not differ at all from those of Her Majesty's Government, but they must allow him to exercise that reserve which must be observed in all the business of life. The views of the Government on the subject had been entertained during a long series of years, and it was not at all probable that being now in power, and placed in power by no ambiguous or equivocal expression, they should not take the earliest opportunity of dealing with a case which had been so long delayed. The deputation had shown how sensible they were of the difficulty, perhaps of the impossibility, of the Government dealing with it in that complete manner which they could desire, but it would be impossible to consider the financial position of the country without giving to the question the most anxious and complete consideration.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday received a deputation from the Central Brewers' Licence Repeal Association, who urged the abolition of the duty on brewers' licences. The right hon. baronet in reply said that his reception of a second deputation within a few days would show that he did not wish to pass over the matter lightly. He would consult with Sir William Stephenson as to the excise hardships imposed upon the brewers through the licence duty, and he assured the deputation that their request should have his serious consideration.

A deputation of gentlemen connected with the sugar-trade waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer yesterday, and asked for the remission of the remaining portion of the sugar-duties. The right hon. baronet promised to examine the question in all its bearings, and with reference to other remissions of taxation which had been pressed upon him. He assured them that the subject should have his most serious consideration.

#### Epitome of News.

Her Majesty held a Court on Wednesday at Windsor Castle to receive addresses of congratulation on the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh from the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge, the Corporation of the City of London, the body of English Presbyterian ministers resident in and near the cities of London and Westminster, the general body of Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the Three Denominations, the Corporation of the City of Dublin, and the Corporation of the City of Edinburgh. The deputation from the general body of Protestant Dissenting ministers of the three denominations consisted of the Rev. John Stoughton, D.D., the Rev. Alexander Raleigh, D.D., the Rev. John Kennedy, D.D., the Rev. Professor Newth, M.A., the Rev. Edward Mannering, the Rev. Alexander Hannay, the Rev. John Edmond, D.D., the Rev. Henry Miller, the Rev. Joseph Angus, D.D., the Rev. John Clifford, M.A. LL.B., B.Sc., the Rev. Charles Kirtland, and the Rev. R. H. Marten, B.A. Her Majesty received the address of the deputies and returned a gracious answer. The Rev. John Stoughton and the Rev. Alexander Hannay had then the honour of kissing hands.

On Thursday afternoon the addresses of congratulation voted by the corporation of London to the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh were presented to their royal highnesses at Buckingham Palace.

The Queen is to come to town on Wednesday and remain till Friday.

The Prince and Princess of Wales paid a visit to the Empress Eugénie at Chislehurst on Saturday.

The Duchess of Edinburgh went on Sunday morning to the chapel of the Russian Embassy in Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, and was present at the celebration of "the Divine Liturgy" according to the rite of the Russian branch of the Eastern Church.

Wednesday was the twenty-sixth anniversary of the birthday of the Princess Louise.

Preparations will be commenced at Windsor Castle shortly for the reception of the Czar, who is expected to arrive in this country in May. During his stay it is expected that there will be a review of the Royal Horse Artillery on Woolwich Common and an inspection of the arsenal.

Mr. Disraeli has declined to receive a deputation urging the release of the Fenian convicts who are still detained in prison.

Lord Ravensworth has been raised to the dignity of an earl, by the title of Earl Ravensworth. His second title will be Baron Easington.

Sir Robert Peel, speaking at a banquet at Tamworth, said he had no grounds for believing that the rumour that he was to be appointed to an

ambassadorship was true. He never heard of it until he saw it in the newspapers.

A conference was held at Birmingham on Wednesday to consider what action should be taken in relation to the opposition which is about to be offered in Parliament to the new Licensing Act. The mayor presided. After a long discussion it was resolved to forward a memorial to the Home Secretary, protesting against the relaxation of the salutary restrictions imposed by the Licensing Act.

On Friday Sir Samuel Baker was presented with an address from the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. He afterwards took luncheon with the mayor. In a brief speech that he delivered on the occasion Sir Samuel said he regarded commerce as the only real civiliser of savage nations. He spoke very hopefully of Africa as a future cotton-field.

A farmers' association covering thirty-eight parishes in North Lincolnshire, was formed on Friday, and determined to oppose the demand of the labourers for 3s. 6d. per day, and to lock out all union labourers until those who have struck return at the old rate. Fifteen hundred labourers are expected to be locked out in the Newmarket district.

Mr. Macdonald, M.P., has advised the Scotch miners to accept a reduction in wages of a shilling per day. The Cannock Chase miners, to the number of three thousand, will to-day be on strike against a proposed reduction of a shilling per day. Seven hundred Leicester colliers have struck against a reduction of sixpence per day.

The executive committee of the National Agricultural Labourers' Union met on Monday, at Leamington, and reported that 2,500 unionist labourers were locked out throughout the country, and the committee gave permission for strikes in two other districts where the men's demands had been refused.

Both the University crews were out on Saturday afternoon, and their practice was witnessed by a large number of spectators. The boats had trial rows with scratch crews of the London and Kingston clubs, also on Monday. The race takes place on Saturday next.

The miners' strike in South Staffordshire appears to be assuming an alarming aspect. More than ten thousand men are affected by the proposed reduction of wages, and they all seem determined to resist it. The whole of the men in the Cannock district are now out, and the notices of a large number in the Dudley and Brierley Hill districts expire shortly.

Mr. Macdonald, M.P., was present at a conference of miners held at Glasgow on Saturday, and justified his consent to be nominated upon the Royal Commission on the labour laws. A resolution of confidence in Mr. Macdonald in reference to this matter was passed.

The Engineers' Advance of Wages Conference have passed a resolution deprecating the action of the Trades Union Parliamentary Committee in condemning the appointment of a Royal Commission upon the Labour Laws, questioning the right of that body to put forth the statement that they represent more than a million working men, and expressing an opinion that Mr. Macdonald, M.P., and Mr. Thomas Hughes were quite right in accepting places on the commission.

The result of the poll in the borough of Galway is that Mr. O'Donnell received 579 votes, and Mr. Joyce 358, thus showing a majority of 221 for the former. The former was supported by the priests.

Mr. Stansfeld has consented to put his name with Mr. Forsyth, Mr. Gurney, and Dr. Lyon Playfair on the back of the Women's Suffrage Bill. The promoters are sanguine of passing the bill this year. No opposition is expected in the Lords. Of six Cabinet Ministers of the Commons, four support it. Mr. Cross strongly opposes.

In explanation of the issue of a new writ for the Falkirk Burghs, it is stated that Mr. Ramsay, the lately elected member, was disqualified from taking his seat in consequence of his being the owner of four sixty-fourth shares in a vessel carrying the mails to Islay, his entire interest in the contract amounting to £9 7s. 6d. per annum. He has been released from the contract, and comes forward for re-election.

The Trades Union Parliamentary Committee on Friday held a meeting, which had been specially convened to consider the action of the Government in appointing the Labour Laws Commission. A resolution was unanimously passed, declaring it to be a mere excuse for delay; and protesting against it as a surprise, an intrigue, and a fraud. The trades unions of the country are recommended to refuse to have anything to do with the commission, either in the way of giving evidence, or of recognising its action.

Mr. Thomas Halliday and the other members of the Amalgamated Miners Society, who have been tried at the Manchester Assizes for conspiracy this week, and in whose case the jury were unable to agree, were brought up on Friday morning, and after some discussion were discharged without entering into recognisances, and the indictments were ordered to stand over. The judge expressed a hope that it would not be necessary to take any further proceedings, and said he thought Mr. Halliday would see on reflection that it was not right to interfere between masters and men when there were contracts existing.

The poll for County Dublin has resulted in the return of Colonel Taylor by 2,123 votes against 1,161 given for Mr. Parnell, the Home-Ruler;

giving the new Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster a majority of 961. The Home-Rulers are discouraged at the result.

The United Kingdom Alliance contemplate sending two gentlemen to the United States to report upon the women's whisky war.

The predicted high tide became an accomplished fact at many coast towns on Friday, both in the east and west of the island. In the Thames the highest tide which has been seen for very many years occurred on Friday afternoon. The water rose to about four feet above its usual height. The Lambeth district, from Blackfriars to Vauxhall bridges, occupied by small houses, chiefly inhabited by labouring people, suffered the most from the overflow. For upwards of one hour, from three to four o'clock, the water rushed across the wharves, yards, and narrow lanes lining the banks, and speedily flooded the main thoroughfares, such as Commercial-road, Belvedere-road, High-street, &c., running parallel with the river, to the depth of from three feet to four feet. The intervening cross streets were rendered impassable for upwards of two hours. The overflow being sudden and unexpected, the amount of damage done is very considerable. The kitchens and cellars of the houses situated within a few hundred yards of the river were filled with muddy water to a depth of several feet. Many old women and children narrowly escaped being drowned. In Princes-square, one woman, who had only been confined in the morning, floated from her bed, clasping her baby in her arms. The child was drowned, and when the woman was rescued she was nearly dead.

The Treasury has awarded the Tichborne jurors three hundred guineas each. They regard this as an inadequate compensation for their loss of time, and their foreman (Mr. Dickins) has been in correspondence with the Treasury with a view to obtain a reconsideration of the decision. The Government, however, refuse to make any further grant.

A supplementary estimate was issued on Saturday, presented to the House of Commons, of additional sums to the money already provided for 1873, required to be voted for the year ended the 31st of March inst., in which appears a sum of 40,000*l.* to defray the further costs of the prosecution, "The Queen v. Castro."

"Captain Brown," the Tichborne witness, has been finally committed for trial on a charge of perjury, heavy bail being accepted.

The Benchers of Gray's Inn have resolved that it is incumbent upon them to institute an inquiry into Dr. Kenesly's conduct during the late Tichborne trial, and have appointed a committee to report upon the charges which the learned counsel should be called upon to answer.

Thursday last was the first day of the Jewish ecclesiastical year.

The still active British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have just memorialised the Marquis of Salisbury on the subject of the slave-trade and slavery they allege to exist very extensively throughout the Afghan territories. In his reply the marquis expresses his sympathy with their views, and intimates his intention to request the Government of India to furnish a full report on the subject.

Rumours very generally prevail in Dublin (says the *Pall Mall Gazette*) that the Government contemplate certain "concessions" to Ireland of a social rather than a political nature. The erection of a royal residence near Dublin, and the substitution of a royal prince and a yearly court on a regal scale for the Viceroy, are among the projects with which the Ministry are credited. Expectations of this kind, whether well founded or not, help to promote their popularity. It is said in some quarters that contracts are already being sought for alterations to the Viceregal Lodge in the Phoenix Park, which will cost 30,000*l.*

Lord Rossmore, of the 1st Life Guards, was riding in the Guards' Cup race at the Windsor Steeplechase on Friday afternoon, when his horse fell and rolled over him. His lordship was at once conveyed to the Cavalry Barracks, close by, and it was found that he had sustained some very serious internal injuries. He now lies in a very precarious state. The Queen, who witnessed the accident from her carriage in the King's-road, has caused repeated inquiries to be made at the barracks, and on Saturday, at Her Majesty's special request, none of the military races were held.

A correspondent of the *Liverpool Post* writes that the Guards' Club have passed a resolution to exclude Home-Rulers from membership.

Her Majesty has ordered King Coffee's umbrella to be placed in the South Kensington Museum.

It was resolved at a meeting held at Newcastle on Saturday to reduce the wages of miners in that district twenty per cent. A similar reduction is anticipated in Northumberland.

There was only one night charge on Saturday morning at the Marlborough-street Police-court, and in that the prosecutor did not attend. Such a circumstance has not occurred at this court during the past twenty-five years.

Easter Monday is not to pass away without its volunteer review. A field-day has been contrived, by the authorities of the Horse Guards, for the 8,000 or 10,000 men of the metropolitan regiments, the Middlesex troops being under the command of Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and the Surrey brigades under Colonel Stephenson.

There has just died at Berwick an old woman named Jane Lorraine, who had 11 children (seven of whom married), 61 grandchildren, and 60 great-grandchildren, making a total offspring of 132.

The *Daily News* says that Mr. Gladstone has

written to a Northamptonshire clergyman on the receipt of some verses from the *Northampton Mercury*, wherein occurs the passage:—

Thy just resentment and thy well-earned ease forego.  
The honourable gentleman says that he has no resentment, and if he had it would not be just.

In Edinburgh, on Saturday night, a bricklayer named Isen killed his little boy, aged two years, by cutting the child's throat. The murderer, who had previously tried to kill a man of whom he was jealous, put an end to his own life with the weapon he had used upon his son.

The Queen arrived at Buckingham Palace on Monday afternoon from Windsor Castle.

The Empress Eugène visited the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh on Monday afternoon at Buckingham Palace.

Mr. Arthur Peel will act as Opposition Whip during the session, and Mr. Sellar, secretary to the Liberal Central Association, has been appointed his secretary.

On Monday morning a number of miners, who had apparently been dog-racing, met a tramp on the highway at Annfield Plain, near Consett, and, after knocking him about the head, threw him into a well ten feet deep. Shortly afterwards a young woman from a neighbouring farmhouse, going to the well for water, heard the shouts of the poor man. He was taken out of the well in an exhausted condition and conveyed to the Durham Infirmary.

It has been decided that the hearing of the election petitions affecting Hackney, Kidderminster, and Stockport will commence on the 14th of next month, before Justices Mellor and Groves and Baron Bramwell, and that the same judges will proceed, on the 21st, with the hearing of the Wakefield, Windsor, and Petersfield petitions. Mr. Hawkins, Q.C., has been retained in six different election petitions, with a retaining fee in each case of 600 guineas, and 100 guineas refresher each day. Mr. Giffard, Q.C., holds eleven retainers, Mr. Serjeant Ballantine nine, and Mr. J. J. Powell, Q.C., five.

There is some excitement in the neighbourhood of Newmarket, in consequence of the lock-out of 2,000 agricultural labourers. Letters threatening incendiary fires have been received by some of the farmers.

Last evening Prince Arthur received his initiatory degree as a Freemason at the hands of the Prince of Wales. The ceremony took place at Willis's Rooms.

**THE BORE ON THE SEVERN.**—On Friday a gigantic tidal wave called "the Bore" made its expected appearance, accompanied by an unusually high tide, in the Severn. Mr. Frank Buckland, who saw it, says:—"As the wave approached nearer and nearer, the 'voice of many waters,' accompanied by a strange and sudden blast of cold wind, was truly awe-inspiring. In an instant the Bore swept past us with a mighty rush and the whirl of a thousand Derbys passing the grand stand. Two angry precipices of water, the escorts on either side of this terrible wave, swept with terrific weight and power along the banks, throwing high up into the air and well above the pollard trees, a sheet of water mixed with mud and sticks."

**CHARITY ORGANISATION SOCIETY.**—Mr. W. E. Forster, M.P., presided on Thursday at the annual meeting of the Charity Organisation Society. He observed that until he looked into the facts he had no idea that the society was doing so high and noble a work. It discouraged professional begging, and sought out and gave relief to those who, from no fault of theirs, had been unfortunate. He believed that the more the proceedings of the society were examined, the more hopeful we should feel as to our power to cope with the terrible amount of misery and distress that was to be found in this metropolis. The report stated that during the year 1873, the society caused investigations to be made into 14,891 applications for relief. Of these 4,835 were dismissed, 4,350 were referred to the Poor Law, local agencies, private persons, or charitable institutions, and in the remaining 5,706 cases assistance was given. Co-operation and personal assistance were asked for as much as was pecuniary help. Mr. Walter, M.P., Mr. Slater-Booth, M.P., Mr. Kay-Shuttleworth, M.P., and the Rev. Harry Jones, were among the speakers.

**LIBERAL CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.**—The committee of the Liberal Registration Association have determined to extend its operations so that it may serve as the centre for a general organisation of the Liberal party throughout the country. The committee propose to enter into communication with local Liberal associations wherever such associations exist, to assist in establishing them both in boroughs and counties where they are not already established, to aid in looking after the registration of voters from year to year, to attend as heretofore to voters who do not reside in the counties wherein they are qualified, to impart information, and generally to render assistance to local agencies, with the view of furthering the promotion of Liberal principles. Mr. Alexander Craig Sellar, formerly secretary to the Lord Advocate, has been appointed secretary to the association. Mr. T. Nicolls Roberts will continue to give his services to the committee as secretary to the registration department. The staff of clerks, messengers, &c., necessary for the discharge of the daily duties of the whip have removed to the offices of the association at 43, Parliament-street, and have already commenced their work.—*Daily News*

# SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

## THE TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE.

The CONFERENCE will be held in LONDON, on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, the 5th and 6th of May.

Particulars relative to the mode of appointing Delegates, and other information, may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.  
2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street, London.

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## OPENING of the NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.

This new place of worship will be OPENED on TUESDAY, MARCH 31, at 11.30. The Dedication Service will be conducted by the Rev. T. Aveling, and the Rev. R. W. Dale, M.A., will preach. There will be a Collation at Two o'clock, and in the Evening the Rev. J. G. Rogers, B.A., Chairman of the Congregational Union, will preach. On the following Evening there will be a SPECIAL SERVICE for the Young, at Seven o'clock, to be conducted by the Rev. R. Moffat, D.D., and the Rev. J. C. Harrison, Chairman of the Board of Management of Milton Mount College. Dr. Morley Punshon will be the preacher on the Evening of April 2, service to begin at 6.30.

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# The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1874.

## SUMMARY.

THE proceedings of Parliament are, as was expected, unusually dull. The main object of the Government is to get through as much necessary business as possible, such as taking votes of supply on account—one being nearly a million for the Ashantee war—before the Easter recess, so that by Tuesday next the Commons may be "released from their arduous labours," and take a fortnight's holiday. The Budget will be unfolded by Sir Stafford Northcote on Thursday, April 16, but before the adjournment it will be necessary that the income-tax, which would expire during the vacation, shall be renewed for a month or two. Numerous deputations have waited upon the Government during the week to urge their claims upon the surplus—which is not, however, expected to amount to four millions—and the reply of the Prime Minister to one of them would indicate that he is prepared at once to make some pro-

posal for the relief of local taxation. There was an interesting debate on Monday as to the proper adjustment of the income-tax, in the course of which Mr. Laing and other members protested that its entire abolition would be a financial blunder. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, of course, refused to reveal his intentions, which will be made known in three weeks' time.

The new Government have been prompt in the publication of the estimates, which of course are in the main those of their predecessors. The charge for the army for the year is 13,293,800*l.*, against 14,416,100*l.* last year. The number of men is estimated at 128,994 against 128,968 in 1873. For the navy the total estimate is 10,179,415*l.*, being a net increase of 279,760*l.* as compared with last year. The two services will thus absorb some twenty-four millions and a half of the revenue for 1874-5. Though the session is only a few days old, this expenditure does not satisfy some professional critics, and the Earl of Lauderdale edified his brother peers on Monday by drawing quite an alarmist picture of the state of the navy, on the hypothesis that we must be ready to tackle the whole world at sea! For the Civil Service the sum of 18,800,661*l.* will be required, a decrease of about a quarter of a million upon last year, notwithstanding an increase of 118,246*l.* in England, and of 117,825*l.* in Scotland, in the annual grants for day and evening scholars.

Several transports with troops returned from the Gold Coast have arrived during the week at Portsmouth, and the soldiers, especially the 42nd Highlanders, have been received with much enthusiasm by the inhabitants of that town. Sir Garnet Wolseley and his staff have also returned to England, but as nothing has been published on the subject, we presume that the King of Ashantee has not actually ratified the treaty, to the preliminaries of which he had agreed. Sir Garnet's successor as head of the Cape Coast Protectorate, has not yet been found. Mr. Berkeley and others have refused the office, which goes a begging. It will be no easy matter to deal with all the native tribes, including some of King Coffee's recent feudatories who will now look to the British representatives for guidance. The Ashantee war is over, but the administrative difficulties at Cape Coast Castle are beginning afresh.

The French National Assembly has now before it the materials for framing a constitution. The Committee of Thirty and the Government have well considered the subject; but the Duc de Broglie and his colleagues are in no haste to propound a scheme which will permanently alienate their Legitimist supporters; and the subject is postponed till after the recess, which will last till May. Meanwhile, the reactionists will make another appeal to the Comte de Chambord! The committee appointed to examine the Government Bill for prolonging the powers of the Municipal Councils, has reported in favour of suspending that measure till the new municipal law has been voted, and the Ministry are in trouble on the subject, as well as in respect to the general want of security and depression of trade, which in Paris is most deplorable. Marshal MacMahon has renewed his declaration that he will use all his authority to support the Septennate, but he has not succeeded in restoring public confidence.

The celebrations at Berlin and Rome during the week have been noteworthy events. In the German capital the seventy-seventh birthday of the Emperor William was regarded as a public festival. German princes and princesses crowded to Berlin to congratulate the aged monarch, in whom his subjects take much pride, notwithstanding his distrust of Constitutional Government. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession of Victor Emmanuel was the occasion of national demonstrations at Rome and elsewhere. During that interval of time the King of Sardinia has grown to be the sovereign of a united Italy, and no European potentate reigns more securely in the hearts of his people "Victor Emmanuel," as it has been said, "is strong in the loyalty of his subjects, and the secret of his strength is that he has been loyal to them." The Papal reception in Rome on Monday served rather to show the impotence of clerical opposition to the established order of things than to give the Italian Government any disquietude.

Marshal Serrano has been unable as yet to make an attack on the formidable position of the Carlists in the mountains around Bilbao, or to raise the siege of that town. Nearly all the available national troops are now concentrated in the province of Biscay, but they are not equal to their antagonists in quality and discipline. An attempt to turn the position of the Carlists has failed, and their bands are now gaining successes in Navarre and Catalonia. Serrano has to choose between a great battle

with a probable defeat, or a long-continued action which will demoralise his forces.

The news from Bengal tells of the untiring efforts of the Government officials—Sir Richard Temple being especially conspicuous for his devotion—to meet the great emergency. They are confronted by enormous difficulties, not the least of which is the crowding of the people by thousands to the relief works, and in some districts the suspension of agricultural operations. There is no lack of food, but the obstacles in the way of distributing it in the remote famine-stricken districts are immense, while in some places the relief works cannot be prosecuted in consequence of the emaciated condition of the people. Sir R. Temple has, however, satisfied himself personally that the area where the famine will be felt most severely will be more restricted than was at first apprehended, and will be confined to the northern borders of Chumparun and Tirhoot. The population thus specially afflicted is under four millions. There is, we fear, too much reason to believe that the mortality of children in Bengal will be very great, notwithstanding the far-reaching organisation of the Government.

## THE MINISTERIAL PROGRAMME.

PARLIAMENT reassembled for business on Thursday last, when the Speech from the Throne was read by the Lord Chancellor. If it is to be considered, as we suppose it is, in the light of a Ministerial programme for the session, it may be accepted as an augury of quiet times, at any rate for the present. It sets forth, as usual, the salient features of the political whereabouts of the country down to the opening of Parliament, the royal marriage, the close of the Ashantee war, and the commencement in frightful earnest of the Indian famine. It promises some amendment of the law with regard to the transfer of land; the extension to Ireland of the Judicature Bill of last session; and the adaptation of its provisions to Scotland, with a view to bring the procedure upon appeals into harmony with recent legislation. It announces the issue of a royal commission to inquire into the state and working of the recent Act of 1871, touching the relationship of master and servant, and also of the law of conspiracy in its bearing upon offences growing out of that relationship. It intimates the intention of Government to propose some change in the Acts regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors, and calls attention to the law affecting friendly and provident societies.

The debate on the Address was nearly as quiet in its tone as the Royal Message. It would hardly have elicited comment but for the amendment proposed on the bringing up of the report, as a vague recognition of the principle of Home-Rule. On this amendment there was something in the shape of a debate, the principal characteristic of which was that no serious meaning appeared to be attached to it. Mr. Butt put his case before the country; or rather, what he wishes the country to regard as the case of Ireland. But neither the urgency of his complaints, nor the weight of his purpose, were such as to leave any distinct mark upon public opinion. Mr. Gladstone, as is not unfrequently the case with him, played round about the question with a copiousness of language which, while it did not directly lay down his judgment, generally indicated his adherence to the principle which he had enunciated some time since in his speech at Aberdeen. Sir Michael Beach, the new Irish Secretary, left no room to doubt what would be the policy of the Government in relation to the question, but declined to enter upon its merits on so unsuitable an occasion. The talk from beginning to end was devoid of practical significance, and, as it struck us, disclosed nothing so clearly as the helpless and hopeless position in which the Home-Rulers have been placed by the results of the late general election. In other respects, the debates in both Houses on the address in response to the Queen's message have been tame and spiritless, with the exception, however, of a savage attack, as offensive to gentlemanly feeling as to good taste, made by the Duke of Somerset, a reputed Liberal, upon Mr. Gladstone, his *quondam* leader.

The sessional programme, so far as can be gathered from what has come under the notice of the public, comprehends, in addition to the mode of applying the surplus revenues of the year, which will not be disclosed until after the Easter holidays, the measure we have referred to above. Nobody will regard this as an ambitious programme. Less than has been proposed could hardly have been offered. The probability is, that most of the measures indicated would have been comprehended in the business contemplated by the last Government. There is no reactionary policy in prospect—there

is no promise of heroic legislation. The interest of the session will centre upon the financial arrangements of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. These, we surmise, will be characterised by moderation and good sense rather than by brilliancy. Sir Stafford Northcote is a fair-minded as well as an able man—at least he has the credit of being so. It may be reasonably hoped that he will be guided by a sober view of what the wants of the country require, rather than by the interests of his party, in disposing of the large surplus which has fallen into his hands.

The work of the Government, however, which will make the strongest appeal to the confidence of the country, will be administrative rather than legislative. The famine in Bengal threatens to tax all its wisdom, courage, and resource. We are glad to see that it is grappling with the difficulty and the danger in a spirit of becoming seriousness. The statements made by the Marquis of Salisbury in the House of Lords, and by Lord George Hamilton in the House of Commons, show that the Government is intent upon straining its powers to the utmost, if thereby it may save life. There has been, it is true, no excess of generosity towards the people of India in the proposals it has made. Those proposals, however, are, in a pecuniary sense, fully adequate to the occasion. They lay no burden on the taxpayers of this country. They concede no special advantage to the taxpayers of India. But they do provide that, so far as money can avail to stave off the gigantic evil which impends over Bengal, the money shall be forthcoming. Our only fear is, that the remedial steps taken by the Indian Government have been taken too late to cope effectively with the calamity; that lives are being lost, and will be lost, which might by earlier preparation have been saved; and that, with the best intentions, Indian officials may find that their efforts are in the rear of their work. For the present, we can only wait, and we desire to wait in hope. At any rate, it is some comfort to be able to believe that the best powers of some of the ablest men, backed by the fullest sanction of the nation, are being devoted to the object of rescuing millions of human beings from the starvation and misery inflicted upon them by an unexpected drought.

Then, what is to be done with the Gold Coast Protectorate? What use are we about to make of our recent victory over the King and people of Ashantee? What is the policy which in future is to regulate our relations with the savage tribes of Western Africa? For our own part, we could wish with Mr. Bright that all interference of the British Power with the inhabitants of that region could be honourably and finally withdrawn. We have no faith in the diffusion of civilisation by means of what Prince Bismarck describes as "blood and iron." We doubt whether the expedition under Sir Garnet Wolseley, brought to so triumphant a close, will be found to have paved the way for the diffusion of ideas, sentiments, and interests, more likely to soften the rugged nature of the negro race than those which have hitherto shaped their character. But if we must still continue our settlements in those parts, it will be for Her Majesty's Government, and for Lord Carnarvon in particular, to strike out some better system of upholding British supremacy on those coasts than that which has exposed us more than once to the consequences of a barbarous war. To devise some such system, and to get it into practical operation, or else to abandon a task for which we are unfitted, will be a fair test of the statesmanship of Her Majesty's present advisers. These are objects which, of late years, have been too much suffered to lie in neglect, and few people are perhaps fully aware of the detriment which has resulted therefrom to the well-being of the empire.

We are all disposed to give to the men now in office a fair trial. We neither admire nor accept the principles upon which they are supposed to base their Administration. We rejoice, however, that they appear to be impressed with a sense of the responsibility imposed upon them. Doubtless, they have a mission of some kind to fulfil. We can afford to watch their proceedings without serious apprehension. How soon or how late they may reach the end of their official existence it would be presumptuous to predict. But one thing, we think, is certain—they must go forward, however slowly, or they will be overtaken by another wave of Liberal sentiment.

#### MR. FAWCETT'S SPEECH.

To Mr. Fawcett, rejected by Brighton, belongs the honour of having made the first important political speech since the General Election which can be considered as addressed to the Liberal party throughout the country. Next in significance to the decisiveness of the

Liberal defeat—if it should not rather be considered a part of that discomfiture—is the state of paralysis in which the Liberal leaders are found. The overthrow seems to be moral as well as political. True it is that Lord Granville has come forward with an amusing speech about hunting, Mr. Forster has attended a charity meeting, and Mr. Gladstone has appeared to advantage at King's College Hospital, but of politics or the duty of the Liberal party they have said nothing. Mr. Fawcett, who has been invited to become a candidate for the borough of Hackney on certain eventualities, and who appeared before a meeting of electors of that constituency last week, does not consider the loss of a majority as the loss of everything, but speaks as boldly now as when his party swept all opposition before it. It was quite in keeping with this temper that Mr. Fawcett should choose as the first topic of his address on Wednesday night the duty of England to India, and that he should not present the subject in the light of such details as are sure to appeal to emotion, but rather speak of those causes of famine which are perennially at work when we hear nothing of them. Surely it is one of the most remarkable features of the English character that, although we are the most imperial Power, and the most colonising people to be found on the face of the globe, yet it is impossible to make either Indian or Colonial questions attractive either in the House of Commons or out of doors. The more honour to those who, knowing this lack of interest, recall us from time to time to our duty towards the peoples we have conquered and the communities we have sent forth.

Mr. Fawcett's remarks on the behaviour of Mr. Gladstone's more intimate political friends, since the loss of his Parliamentary majority, have doubtless been read with interest, and, let us hope, with profit by the people whom they most concern. "Those who were his most obsequious followers when he was in zenith of his power are now, in the hour of his defeat, the first to talk about deposing him from leadership." This is true, but Mr. Fawcett said nothing about how it came to be so. It might be useful to ask whether such a result is not the natural consequence of the tactics on which the party has been administered for the last two years. Men who are bound together by common principles do not thus fall away from one another as soon as misfortune overtakes them, while want of mutual trust is always enough to dissolve partnerships formed merely for profit. Even Mr. Gladstone, the most high-minded Minister we have ever had, so far deferred to the ignoble spirit which had stolen over his party, as to offer the country a prosperity budget in the place of a policy. Mr. Fawcett having finely criticised Mr. Gladstone in his day of power, now does justice to those high qualities which exalt him far above his fellows. In so doing he truly represents those who have from the beginning been the most devoted of Mr. Gladstone's supporters, although they were also those whom he was ready to sacrifice first. Mr. Fawcett tells the candidates for Mr. Gladstone's place of honour that they have no chance while he remains in public life. As long as he is a member of the House of Commons no one else can pretend to lead the Liberal party. This the second-rate men referred to would doubtless be ready to acknowledge on reflection. Whether even Mr. Gladstone can unite the Liberal party, time, which matures the purposes and reveals the intentions of statesmen, only can show; but there is no doubt that a man of his mark must either be a bond of union or an element of disorganisation. Mr. Fawcett gives fair notice to the aristocratic members of the party as to the qualities which he holds should qualify Mr. Gladstone's successor. "If a Liberal leader should ever be selected, not for his statesmanship, not for his political capacity, but for his wealth and rank, then the Liberal party would be righteously punished if it had to bear a more humiliating defeat than it had suffered in the recent election." That such a warning should be necessary, shows how slow party leaders are to learn the most obvious lessons of adversity.

Mr. Fawcett has administered a most deserved rebuke to those Liberals who, for the past month, have filled the air with their croakings. He cannot understand their strange despondency, and justly says that they must have but slender faith in their principles if they suppose that the great cause of progress was to be arrested by a temporary check. But here again we must remark that the demoralisation thus reprehended is no isolated and inexplicable phenomenon, presenting itself in its own naked right, and owning no connection with preceding occurrences as its cause. The party has been educated for the last two or three years to a condition which was sure to end in a signal collapse. Those who are now discouraged and write to the *Times* that the elections have

swept the Liberal party clean away, are the very persons who complained of Mr. Gladstone during his period of beneficent activity, and rejoiced as the late Government gradually subsided into a mere Administration. Mr. Fawcett says that the Tory reaction cannot be maintained; and predicts that the notorious inability of Ministers to fulfil the extravagant promises they made, when power seemed far distant, will disappoint and disgust their supporters. There is a certain amount of truth in this prediction. Already the Tory organs are crying out against the rush of deputations to the Treasury, and showing that the Government must refuse many of the demands which it has for years been stimulating. Farmers, brewers, and Conservative working men are besieging Sir Stafford Northcote with claims which he is forbidden by the past to deny, and by the present to concede. These men must soon be brought to perceive that they have been the sport of a political conjuror. Even Archbishop Manning, now that by the advice of his suffragans the Catholic vote has been given in many boroughs to the Tories, takes alarm, and at Exeter Hall tells the Total Abstinence League of the Cross that "the influence of distillers, brewers, and publicans over the electors and over Parliament itself is one of the most dangerous signs of the times." Mr. Fawcett is right; the elements of Conservative power must dissolve and fly asunder.

But a mere negative result like that will do the country little good, and the practical question is "how the Liberal party may be reconstituted and united." The response of the soundest and most energetic portion of that party will be substantially that of Mr. Fawcett, "by making the people feel that they have great principles to strive after, and great movements to promote." If this truth, which ought to be axiomatic, had been kept steadily in view by our leaders, it is doubtful whether the recent serious defeat would have been sustained—while, on the other hand, it is certain that a check at the polls would only have roused the ardour and heightened the courage of the Liberal party. Speaking to the electors of Hackney, Mr. Fawcett could hardly avoid referring to the education question. He had, he said, never faltered in his determination to vote for the repeal of the 25th Clause of the Elementary Education Act, but at the same time he deplored the importance which had been given to it, and thought it sad that while tens of thousands of children were living around us in a state of heathen ignorance, time and energy should be wasted in sectarian squabbles. Readers of the *Nonconformist* will heartily sympathise with the spirit of this sentiment. At the same time Mr. Fawcett's manner of putting the present dispute before a popular audience is not altogether such as we should have expected from a gentleman of his candour. A person uninformed on the subject might easily gather from this and other speeches of Mr. Fawcett, that the whole controversy lay between rival sects, and would not suspect that it was a question between the sects on the one hand and the friends of a truly national education on the other. If, as we believe, Mr. Fawcett really desires to further the cause of national education, he may do so in a much more simple and direct manner than by equivocal denunciations; but if he should ever come reluctantly to the conclusion that it was his duty to defer to the sectarian power that he despises, he ought not to do so under cover of reproaches addressed to the friends of that national education of which he approves. Mr. Disraeli's assertion that the 25th clause was a touchstone by which to distinguish between those who are in favour of religious education and those who are not, was truly described by Mr. Fawcett as "astounding and mischievous"; but it was undoubtedly well considered, for its author never goes wrong without "good reason." It answered its purpose as one of a series of representations likely to increase and consolidate the Conservative majority. Mr. Disraeli's reply to the deputation which waited on him last Monday concerning local taxation, may assure us that he will not stick at trifles to gratify his supporters; while, on the other hand, we have the satisfaction of knowing that any retrograde policy that may be adopted now, instead of compromising the Liberal party, will only tend to open its eyes, and show the necessity for combining anew all the elements of true Liberalism for the promotion of common objects.

#### AUSTRIA AND THE PAPACY.

THE Austrian as well as the Prussian Government is now engaged in a desperate struggle with the Vatican, and the Vienna Reichsrath, following the example of the Ber-

lin Diet, has been the arena of lively ecclesiastical debates. Though the two conflicts are somewhat analogous, they differ widely in some of their characteristics. The Emperor William, and perhaps two-thirds of his Prussian subjects, are Protestant, and the struggle to which they are committed with the Ultramontanes is more political than religious. Prince Bismarck cares less for the pretensions of the Romish bishops in Germany than for their entire subservience to the Papal Curia, which is implacably hostile to the unity of Germany, and would spare no effort to rehabilitate France as the "Eldest Son of the Church." In Austria no one questions the devotion of the Kaiser to the Romish Church, and as an overwhelming proportion of his subjects are at least nominally Roman Catholics, the relations of the Vienna Government to the Pope involve no direct political complications, and the power of the hierarchy still so greatly preponderates that the Old Catholics have not obtained any legal recognition in Austria, and they cannot even get married except by the agency of the Established clergy. But the inordinate pretensions of the Holy See, the offensive action of the Austrian bishops, and the clerical scandals which have from time to time come to light, have exasperated the population even in the orthodox Tyrol. From time to time public opinion—for it now happily finds expression in the Austrian Empire—has energetically demanded some decided change in the relations of the Government to the Vatican. For a year or two the statesmen at the head of affairs found means to evade the disagreeable necessity, and were encouraged in their procrastinating policy by the Papal prejudices of the Imperial family. But the failure of the Ultramontanes at the last elections to the Reichsrath, which took place under an enlarged constituency, opened the way to, and indeed compelled the Cabinet of Prince Auerberg to take, action.

Soon after the Parliament was opened in Vienna, the Ministry threw down the gauntlet to the Court of Rome by introducing several Bills to regulate the future relations of the State to the Roman Catholic Church. The first of these measures abolished the last vestiges of the Concordat with Rome, which, according to the peculiar ideas of Ultramontanism, is binding on the secular government, but can be annulled at pleasure by an infallible Pope. The bill also regulates the position of clerical functionaries, prescribes the limits of their authority, and provides for the proper appropriation of endowments, reserving the complete control of the State. Some rules are also laid down for the education and training of candidates for the priesthood. The second bill deals exclusively with the monastic orders, and, among other things, requires a government permit for the erection of new buildings, and provides that the inmates of convents and monasteries shall have freedom of action. In the third measure church property is dealt with, and it is enacted that a progressive tax, ranging from one half to twelve and a half per cent., shall be imposed upon all clerical endowments for the benefit of the poorer clergy. The fourth bill gives the requisite facilities for the establishment of "separate religious bodies," and provides for their recognition. This will apply, of course, to the Old Catholics, but they are, it seems, scarcely satisfied with the extent of the concessions in their favour, though willing to accept them as an instalment. Thus these several measures increase the control of the State over the Romish Church in Austria; the keystone of the whole being the complete severance of formal official relations between the Imperial Government and the Vatican. A further measure legalising civil marriage has been promised, but, as the Emperor is not very favourable to such a change, it will not probably be heard of during the present session.

It will be seen that these measures are far less sweeping and oppressive than the "Falk laws" in Prussia, and cannot fairly be complained of by a Church which enjoys a monopoly of State favour and support, and a vast amount of public and private endowments. But the attempt to restrict the independence and regulate the property of the Romish hierarchy and clergy in Austria is in flat contradiction to the Syllabus and the claims of the Pope; and that is enough for bishops and clergy, who avowedly regard the claims of His Holiness as overriding those of their Emperor.

The general debate on the first and most important of these bills in the representative assembly at Vienna occupied four days. The majority of the speakers were on the Opposition side, but the most weighty addresses were delivered from the Ministerial benches. The former fought with desperation. Count Hohenwart, their leader, described the bill as a violation of the principle of "a free Church in a free State," but he did not propose that the Catholics

should surrender their endowments, but only that they had a right to use them without State control. Other speakers, such as Count Oзарторьски, took the ground that matters relating to religion and worship belonged to the Provincial Diets, and not to the Central Legislature; while one orator, Father Greuter, wound up with a solemn declaration that the Catholics of the Tyrol would "never, never acknowledge such laws, come what might." The two most prominent members of the Government, however, showed a very decided front. Dr. Streymayer said that "the Government could not permit the abuse of religion for the purpose of intrigues fraught with danger to the State, or allow the servants of God to become the missionaries of an organised opposition to the laws of the country." Prince Auerberg was still more energetic. "As long as he was at the head of affairs," he said, "authority would be upheld; he pledged his word for it. Threats had been uttered from one side of the House that these bills would not be recognised as binding. This might foreshadow agitation. He would not take the statement seriously; but he knew that there was some agitation outside. If, however, the threats proved true, the Government would exhibit the necessary energy and accept the struggle." This declaration provoked an outburst of enthusiasm, the effect of which was afterwards seen in the division, which gave the Government a majority of 224 to 71 in favour of the bill—much larger than had been expected by its most sanguine supporters.

But the clerical agitators had another weapon in their armoury. They forthwith published an Encyclical Letter from the Pope to the bishops, condemning the ecclesiastical bills of the Government, describing their object to be "to bring the Roman Catholic Church into most ruinous subjection to the arbitrary power of the State," renewing his protest against the abrogation of the Concordat, and exhorting the prelates to resistance. In another letter, addressed to the Emperor personally, the Pope adjures him "not to allow the Church of his vast empire to be led into ignominious captivity, and his Catholic subjects to be deprived of their cherished privileges." This appeal was in vain. His Majesty handed the Papal letter to his ministers, and publicly expressed his approval of the speeches delivered in the Reichsrath by Prince Auerberg and Herr Streymayer.

The decisive vote in the Lower House obliged the opponents of the bills to change their tactics, and the clerical party, by way of protest, absented themselves from the Assembly. The clauses of the first bill were adopted without alteration, and the second of the ecclesiastical measures has been read a second time by a majority of 192 to 38 votes. The bishops have been holding a conference to devise means of arresting the bills in the Upper House of the Reichsrath, but after the uncompromising attitude taken by the Emperor, their opposition is not likely to be of much avail.

Thus matters stand for the present in reference to this serious conflict between Church and State in Austria. Whether the passing of these laws, which are admitted by the Pope himself to be "moderate" as compared with those of Prussia, will, as he avers, "entail upon the Church in Austria the same disastrous consequences," remains to be seen. The statesmen of Hungary have found the separation of Church and State to be the only effectual remedy for such ecclesiastical conflicts, though no actual measure for that purpose has as yet been passed by the Parliament at Pesth. To that alternative the Government of Austria may be driven by clerical fanaticism. They have to deal with a Power which meets every demand for an abatement of its claims with an inexorable *non possumus*. Though the Pope remains unyielding, the prelates of Austria as well as of Prussia must bitterly bewail that fatal vote of the Vatican Council which placed their Church in antagonism with every Catholic Government, and is now keeping alive these perilous conflicts. It is clear that in Catholic Austria, once the abject slave of the Papacy and governed by an "apostolic" Kaiser, the Court of Rome is gradually losing its predominant influence. Emperor, Parliament, and the mass of the population are hostile to its exorbitant claims, and there seems to be as little prospect of a Papal triumph in Austria as in Prussia. In both countries the assumed authority of the Roman Catholic Church is in direct conflict with the rights of the State. It is a question of principle on each side. Probably the Austrian Government will be less severe in enforcing the new laws than the Prussian Ministry, but should the hierarchy resist the will of the nation, the ultimate result in either case will not be very different. It is quite

possible that in both countries the clergy may in time come to see that their peace and interests are being sacrificed, not in the maintenance of their faith, but to subserve the purposes of the Roman Curia, which are incompatible with the obligations of patriotism.

#### SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

(From a Correspondent in the Gallery.)

The Englishman is famous for the readiness with which he accommodates himself to circumstances. It is part of his education to go about the world, if not believing, at least pretending to believe, that there is nothing new under the sun. I suppose this is why the new Disraeli Parliament met for the despatch of business, as if it had been in the habit of so meeting for unbroken sessions. Although since New Year's Day the country had gone through a political revolution, the appearance of the House of Commons on its opening day did not afford any intimation to that effect. During the fortnight's adjournment the country had become reconciled to the inevitable. We live so fast in these latter days that even the fact of a large Tory majority, and the transfer of Mr. Gladstone and his friends by their own ballot-box to the Opposition side of the House, hardly amount to a nine days' wonder. As the members assembled, not unlike schoolboys after a holiday, there was no sensation, no surprise at the change of parties, although there is nothing so calculated to induce thought and bewilderment, as to see the front Treasury Bench occupied by a totally new row of faces, and to be compelled to look left instead of right for some familiar figure in the Liberal ranks.

We are, perhaps, a trifle discourteous in keeping their lordships of the Upper House waiting; for in Parliamentary ceremonies the Lords lead the way. At the best, when the Queen is absent, and the Royal Speech is read by Commission, the opening of Parliament, so far as the House of Lords is concerned, is a dull and formal business. Albeit a few ladies may appear on the back benches, there is not that drawing-room air which may be observed when Her Majesty appears in State on the gilded throne. Black Rod seems to know this as he summons the Commons, for he is less stately and more natural in his movements than he would be if the eye of the Chamberlain were upon him. The Commons also seem to know it, for although always school-boyish in their rush to the House of Lords, they are now particularly boisterous. The Queen's Speech, as the world can judge for itself, contains very meagre materials; but the sonorous manner in which Lord Chancellor Cairns read out the paragraphs might have allured the listeners for a moment into the suspicion that there was really something in it.

The Commons, mustering in full force at four o'clock, presented a lively House when the Speaker glided into his chair. The Conservatives were radiant of face, and loud of voice, as they chatted and laughed and shook hands with each other. The Liberals were more subdued, but not overcome with depression, or weighed down by despair. As an hon. member was heard to remark in the lobby that evening with a cheery smile—"Bless you, my good fellow, the game is only just begun." Mr. Disraeli likes a touch of the theatrical on these particular occasions, and it was with strongly dramatic effect that the right hon. gentleman—inscrutable, pale, and slow—marched procession-like up to the Speaker's chair, between the two veterans of the party, General Forrester and Mr. Henley. It has been often remarked that, unlike his rival, Mr. Disraeli has no attached personal followers. How far this is true let others determine; suffice it to say that when aroused by excitement to the proper pitch, the Conservatives—the foxhunters, brewers, and squires—can cheer their leader as no others can. The country party may be, as Mr. John Stuart Mill averred, "stupid," but they have tremendous lung-power, and they proved this in greeting their chief when his veteran guides piloted him up to the chair to take the oath. The object of this demonstration received the homage of his followers with apparent unconcern. Whoever saw Mr. Disraeli, under any circumstances whatsoever, in fair weather or in foul, with other than the sphinx-like expression, which seems so gloomy and unsympathetic?

That Mr. Whalley should be the first subject of consideration in the new Parliament, is singular, but it is true, and there was a suppressed titter when the Speaker began to read Lord Chief Justice Cockburn's letter. The titter, however, never swelled into a laugh, for somehow members read in each other's faces that the proper cue at that

moment was silence, and in silence accordingly the communication was received. Although at ordinary sittings funny and sometimes remarkable incidents occur at the time when questions are put and notices given, little attention was paid to the formal notices on the opening night, though they were as usual very numerous. There were a couple of gentlemen, the one in all the splendour of green and gold, the other in abounding scarlet, sitting nervously on the Ministerial side of the House, awaiting the moment when the Speaker should read the Royal Speech, and release them from their suspense. In the addresses of the mover and seconder there was nothing specially calling for remark. It is tacitly understood that the chief art of moving and seconding the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne consists in speaking much and saying little. For men thus fettered, Sir W. Stirling-Maxwell and Mr. W. R. Callender did passing well. The latter gentleman, who is the son of a staunch and worthy Lancashire Liberal, evidently surprised some of the old members on his side of the House by the pretentious manner in which he delivered himself of strings of carefully prepared sentences on the Ashantee war and the royal marriage. You read in the newspaper reports of the proceedings of the day that Mr. Henry Richard seconded the amendment moved by Mr. Torrens. It may not be known to some readers that seconding an amendment in the House of Commons is often a mere form. Sometimes it is done by the hon. member making a slight movement with his hat, or by a nod to the Speaker, and occasionally the House is quite unaware who the seconder is. Let it be understood, however, that the gentleman who has thus formally fulfilled one of the requirements of debate does not lose his right to speak during the progress of the discussion, although, as in the case of Mr. Richard on Thursday, the right is not always insisted on. The short speeches made by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Disraeli could not be expected to contain novel or all-important matter, but it may be said that Mr. Gladstone spoke with a freedom seldom observable during last year, and seemed almost as though he were refreshed by defeat, as the proverbial giant was said to be refreshed with new wine. There was, so to speak, a springiness of action in the right hon. gentleman's utterances that betokened a grateful sense of emancipation from a burdened past, and hope in a promising future. A reply, in his well-known pompous style, half placid and half patronising, from Mr. Disraeli, closed an opening day of, on the whole, remarkable dullness.

Mr. Isaac Butt, Q.C. and Home-Ruler, was once famous for the power of his oratory. But, if one may form an opinion from his recent Parliamentary speeches, the old fire has departed. When, a session or two back, he took his seat pledged to principles then more novel and startling than they are now, we can remember the silent, curious attention with which his rising was regarded, and the disappointment which prevailed when the learned gentleman proceeded in mild language and hesitating speech to enforce his views. A similar surprise was felt on Friday night. Extraneous circumstances had prominently heralded Mr. Butt and his mission. It had been first stated that he would move an amendment to the Address, then a telegram was published denying the announcement, and finally Mr. Butt wrote to the papers repudiating the denial. Accordingly, on Friday, on the bringing up of the report on the Address, the hon. member was seen in his place. Thereupon the idlers and loungers flocked in from the outer rooms, apparently in the expectation that Mr. Butt would do something to cause his instant committal to prison. But the hon. member was studiously moderate. He is, in his own country, a popular advocate in the criminal courts, and now and then gains uproarious applause, which neither judge nor usher can check. On Friday he adopted a *nisi prius* tone, effectively using a well-marshalled phalanx of facts, and infusing an earnestness, which, as earnestness of the true ring ever must be, was respected. The racing gentleman, Mr. Chaplin, who interposed after the Lord Mayor of Dublin, considerably astonished the House by his wrathful attack upon the Irish policy of the late Government. His lament over the fate of the Irish Church would have been pathetic, if it had not been, coming from him, closely allied to the ridiculous.

Two of Mr. Disraeli's young *protégés* made their official bow to the House on the same evening. The author of the "Young Duke" is fond of cultivating youthful talent, albeit he finds scant material in his party. He has never yet succeeded in discovering a second Pitt, nor does the present Parliament offer

much hope that striking Conservative genius will be brought to light. The two young men who made their *début* on Monday are the leading hopefuls. Sir Michael H. Beach was appointed to the Chief Secretaryship of Ireland, not without a full knowledge on Mr. Disraeli's part of his worth. The appointment was not favourably received by some Conservative leader-writers, who do not, as a rule, look carefully beneath the surface. Sir M. H. Beach at Gwydyr House was reputed to be a diligent administrative worker, and, while never raving wildly about Church and State, he showed himself a close and judicial, if not a showy, debater. The other young aspirant, Lord George Hamilton, is a very different person. Time alone can justify the choice of such a light Parliamentary trooper for the important post of Under Secretary for India, which, to the astonishment of all parties, was given to him. It is something that in his statement on the Indian loan he was not flippant or offensive. What he had to do, to be sure, was of the slightest kind, but it must be confessed he did it satisfactorily. Granted that under-secretaries, and secretaries too, are primed by the permanent officials, it yet requires ability to make a statement that shall be clear and unimpassioned, and this Lord George Hamilton succeeded in doing. In the House of Lords on Monday night another new under-secretary, the Earl of Pembroke, made his first appearance on the Government Bench. This young gentleman, who is no more at a loss for words than Lord George Hamilton, is the son of Sidney Herbert, and the author of that most flippant book, "South Sea Bubbles," in which, by an audacious admixture of fact and fancy, discredit was sought to be cast upon the self-denying missionaries of the Southern Seas.

Already Parliament has voted large sums of money for various purposes. There is never any difficulty about that. On Saturday various votes were taken, and the process was continued on Monday. In these matters Mr. W. H. Smith naturally takes a prominent part, with all the practical aptitude we had a right to expect. An income-tax skirmish on Monday evening failed to produce a hint as to the intentions of the Government, Sir Stafford Northcote (adopting a simile of that new convert to Home Rule, Lord Robert Montagu) refusing to be "drawn" like an unsuspecting badger.

#### A REVOLUTION IN TRAVELLING.

The revolution has not taken place yet, but the first small wave of it was experienced in a very agreeable manner last Saturday afternoon. On that afternoon Mr. Pullman, the inventor of the well-known Pullman "cars," invited several gentlemen to take an experimental trip from St. Pancras to Bedford and back in a train made up of four of his saloon carriages about to be introduced on the Midland line. The trip was taken, and we suppose it may be said that it was the pleasantest railway excursion ever taken in this country.

The "cars," as they stood at St. Pancras Station, attracted the attention of all beholders, and their massive proportions, their splendid ornamentation, and their novel fittings, were examined with great curiosity. More smoothly than any English train has ever done they glided, without jolt or noise of any kind, out of the station. Almost noiseless was the passage made through the tunnel under Hampstead Heath, where, instead of a racket nearly sufficient to shatter your nerves for an hour afterwards, you could converse with your companions without lifting the voice beyond its ordinary pitch. This silence and smoothness are due to the adoption of several ingenious inventions, one of which is a double floor, filled with shavings, which deadens all noise from the wheels; of "bogies" for the cars to rest upon, so that no oscillation can take place; of windows which will not shake, and a variety of other contrivances. There are, in fact, more than fifty separate patents used in the construction of the Pullman cars, every one of which has for its object the increased comfort or safety of the traveller.

Soon after emerging from the tunnel into the broad, open Middlesex fields, we take a journey from end to end of the four cars. There are two parlour cars and two drawing-room and sleeping-cars, each seating about thirty-two persons, but differently arranged. In the parlour-car we have luxurious arm-chairs moving on swivels, by which we can turn to almost any point; but in the drawing-room and sleeping-cars the seats are for two persons each, facing each other, with, if you choose, a table in the middle. All the woodwork is of inlaid American black walnut, and the coverings are of crimson velvet. The carpets are thick Brussels. Each car is more than eight feet high,

so that if we should get a race of Anakims, Mr. Pullman will have provided for their appearance. It is not, however, such luxurious accommodations as these that constitute the chief recommendations of the cars. Most persons will prefer to use the large saloons, but if they should wish for greater privacy they can obtain it, for each carriage is furnished with private rooms, accommodating five persons sitting and three sleeping. This brings us to the beds, which may be said to be the last result of American ingenuity. It takes not quite a minute to convert a portion of the drawing-room saloon into separate bedrooms. A spring-lock in the rounded roof is touched, and presto! there are mattresses, blankets, pillows, sheets, with platform on which to rest. A touch of the seats on which you have been sitting, and, behold, they are converted at once into a bedstead for two persons. Curtains ensure perfect privacy, and light can be shut out or admitted at pleasure.

We have not yet enumerated all the conveniences of the Pullman car. There is accommodation for eating, drinking, smoking, washing, everything being as complete and beautifully arranged as can be conceived. In fact, one may travel for days in these cars without requiring to get out, without a disposition to get out, and without being tired at the end of the journey.

It took about an hour to run down to Bedford, and, as we were nearing the town, the cars were silently converted, in the course of about two minutes, into spacious dining-rooms, with cloths laid and luncheon on the tables. After luncheon Mr. Pullman's health was drunk. That quiet energetic gentleman said, "Thank you," and went to attend to his work. A little after five the train got into St. Pancras station.

There can be little doubt that these cars will slowly revolutionise railway travelling. They are not, we daresay, perfect yet, but if they can be made better they will be. The great fact about them is that they make travelling much pleasanter and safer than it now is, and that, for ladies and invalids, they will be found beyond all praise. Gentlemen, perhaps, will, if they choose, "rough" it in an English first-class carriage, but they will not choose to do so long—especially as the cost of travelling by a "Pullman" will be only slightly in excess of the cost of first-class travelling now.

#### RELIGIOUS TEACHING IN BOARD SCHOOLS.

At the last meeting of the London School Board a letter addressed by Mr. Francis Peek to Sir C. Reed, M.P., the chairman, was read, enclosing 500*l.* to be expended within one year in defraying the cost of examinations in the Bible and in the principles of religion and morality, one of the subjects of daily instruction in the board schools. The donor said he was anxious that the religious instruction should be efficiently carried on, and pupil teachers and scholars should be encouraged to seek proficiency in it. In the course of the discussion which arose Mr. Scrutton reminded the board that in their last session they had a debate as to whether there should be an examination in religious subjects, and the proposal was ultimately withdrawn, and therefore they should be careful not to commit the board to the principle in recording their sense of Mr. Peek's gift. The Rev. Dr. Barry protested against the statement of Mr. Scrutton as to the inference from the withdrawal of the motion which he (Dr. Barry) made last session. The reason for withdrawal was not because there was any understanding that there should be no examination, but because it had been laid down previously that there should be an examination. Mr. H. Gover suggested that the best course would be to acknowledge the offer with thanks, and place the letter on the minutes to be dealt with hereafter. Mr. Picton said if the motion were persisted in, in its present shape, he should feel it his duty to move an amendment. The chairman suggested that Mr. Watson should place his notice on the agenda for next week; as the acceptance of the gift now would perhaps commit the board to the conditions contained in it. Eventually it was agreed that the thanks of the board should be conveyed to Mr. Peek for his offer, with an intimation that it would be considered at the next board meeting.

When the question of the acceptance of Mr. Peek's offer comes up for consideration to-day, Mr. Picton will move the following amendment:—

That this board, while gratefully acknowledging the generous kindness of Mr. Peek's offer, is of opinion that the proposed prizes would practically amount to an endowment of particular forms of religious belief.

That such an endowment would be inconsistent with that spirit of impartiality towards all denominations which is essential to any just system of national education.

That Mr. Peek be therefore informed that the board regrets the necessity under which it is placed of respectfully declining to avail itself of his munificence for this purpose.

This seemingly generous gift of Mr. Peek raises, as the amendment suggests, very serious issues. There are Roman Catholic and Unitarian members of the board. Would not Mr. Peek be willing that there should be religious teaching according to their respective views? If not, his offer is really one-sided, and is very much like throwing a sectarian "apple of discord" among the members of the board.

## Literature.

JOHN DE BARNEVELD.\*

If readers who come to Mr. Motley's new volumes with their expectations raised by his previous histories are conscious of some disappointment with portions of his great work, the blame must be laid not upon the author but upon the subject of which he has here to treat. The period embraced in these volumes is an interval between two great struggles; and though it is not an interval of repose, yet there are not in it the rapid and brilliant movements, the thrilling incidents and remarkable characters which gave an interest to the first portion, that we may expect to be renewed when Gustavus Adolphus appears on the stage. The heroic age of the Dutch Republic—the day when it had to fight for dear life, perhaps against the most tremendous odds which a people ever had to encounter—the time of daring adventure, of patient endurance and costly sacrifices which constrained the admiration even of foes, of struggles on which the eyes of the whole civilised world were fixed—the period of a lofty and self-denying patriotism which stifled petty discords, inspired men with great purposes, which of themselves were an element of nobility, and so made great men who were the glory of their country—seemed for the time to be over. There was still left John de Barneveld, one of the ablest and most trusty men whom the crisis had called forth, the friend of William the Silent, one of the chief instruments in the establishment of the Republic, the trusted adviser of the House of Orange on the one side and of the different States on the other, but the times were not favourable to the development of his great qualities, and the new Stadtholder entertained very different sentiments towards him from those with which he had been regarded by the illustrious Prince who was the first leader of the revolt. We are now in the midst of a time of theological controversy, diplomatic intrigue, and intestine strife in which those whose union was essential to the interests of the cause of liberty were matched against each other, and doing the work of their common foe. Mr. Motley has done his best with the material at his command, but it is impossible to make an interesting narrative when there are so few elements of heroism and nobleness and so much of an opposite character. About this part of the story, indeed, there is, in truth, much to excite a feeling of melancholy. Hitherto we have followed with interest and admiration the course of a gallant people, whom tyranny would have crushed under its iron heel, but who were resolved to be great; who for freedom were ready to sacrifice all they held most dear besides; who bearded the mightiest representative of priestly despotism the world has seen, when he was in the very plenitude of his power; and who would not submit when France quailed before him and England deemed that prudence was the better part of valour in her relations to him, and who by dint of their own decision, energy, and courage, had achieved their independence. But here we see them in the hour of their success, forgetting the lessons they ought to have learned in their hours of difficulty and struggle, showing how imperfect was their own appreciation of that religious liberty for which they had been contending, seeking in their turn to maintain a standard of orthodoxy, and to compel submission to it, and in the bitterness of their sectarian feeling allowing themselves to show a shameless ingratitude to one who had rendered them eminent, faithful, and disinterested service. We are very far from saying that John de Barneveld was the victim solely of religious bigotry, for it was personal jealousy that determined his fate; but that jealousy would have been unable to work its wicked will but for the weapons which religious bigotry placed in its hands. We would not press too severely upon these Hollanders. They simply shared the spirit of the age, and least of all can Rome taunt them for not having at once unlearned the principles which she herself had taught them, or for not having already attained that higher wisdom and that more perfect liberty which to her are an abomination and offence even to this day. Not the less do we mourn over the way in which the fair fame of the Republic was sullied, and feel that there is a sadness in the story which records this degeneracy. Let us say, however, that to the philosophic student of history this instalment of Mr. Motley's *magnum opus* will not be its least valuable part. It would be almost impertinent to say that it bears the marks throughout of the

careful research and painstaking accuracy for which he is so well known. In this respect he is the model of an historian, and his large experience of public affairs gives him a power of appreciating the exact value of the documents with which he has to deal, which enables him to turn his diligent investigations to the best purpose. John de Barneveld is, in a certain sense, a hero to him, he has thoroughly sounded his character and studied his aims, and they command his hearty sympathy, but this does not make him a blind worshipper and indiscriminating advocate. He shows always a great breadth of view and impartiality in his judgments, and yet there is a hearty, honest glow in his narrative, which appeals to the best feelings of his readers. He does not conceal his preferences, though he does not allow them to override evidence; and while careful in his statement of facts, does not shrink from giving his own interpretation of them. The book is full of life, and rich in instruction, and while there is quite enough to carry the ordinary reader on, albeit little to awaken the breathless interest with which the story of the more brilliant portions of the struggle for independence were followed, the student who reads history in a scientific spirit, will feel that it has a value even superior to that of narratives which at first appear more attractive.

The two leading characters of the Republic during the period were John de Barneveld and Maurice the Stadtholder, and on their rivalry the story turns. They were both men of great ability, though in different departments—Maurice being hardly less distinguished as a soldier than was Barneveld as a statesman. Their country had great need of the best services of both, and there is no reason to doubt that both of them were true patriots, who would gladly have spent their energy in her cause. But unhappily their views came into collision, and that in a form and to an extent which forbade the possibility of reconciliation. The great Advocate, indeed, had always shown himself the firm and fast friend of the House of Orange, and Maurice owed the position which he held as the chief of the Republic mainly to the skill with which Barneveld had conducted affairs after the assassination of his illustrious father, knitting afresh the alliance between the different States which seemed so likely to be dissolved, and inducing one after another of the provinces to confer the Stadtholderate upon him. "Within six years after his father's death, the youthful soldier" (for Maurice was only a lad of eighteen when the cruel weapon of the Romish fanatic robbed him of a father and Holland of a leader whose loss was irreparable), "who had already given proof of his surpassing military genius, had become governor, military chief, and high admiral of five of the seven provinces constituting the Confederacy," and this almost wholly through the influence of John de Barneveld. Such great services ought to have ensured the confidence if not the gratitude of Maurice for the man who had proved at once his ability and his willingness to advance the fortunes of the prince so far as was compatible with the real welfare of the Commonwealth. This reservation, however, the eminent patriotic statesman always maintained, and it was through this that the differences between the two men arose.

Maurice, who had obtained so much, was desirous to have yet more, and not content with being the head of a Republic, aspired to the sovereignty. The ambition was not unnatural, and can scarcely be pronounced criminal. If William the Silent had lived, the crown would undoubtedly have been his, conferred upon him with the hearty good will of an enthusiastic and grateful people; and though his premature death, in the midst of his glorious career, prevented this intention of the States from being carried out, it was not wonderful that his son, who had completed the work his father had commenced, might hope to receive the reward which had been destined for him. The United Provinces, so far from having committed themselves to Republican principles, had anxiously gone in quest of a monarch, were content at one time to have taken the miserable Henry of Anjou, and would gladly have conferred the sovereignty upon our Elizabeth if she, discarding economy and prudence, had been bold enough to accept its responsibilities. "It was," as Mr. Motley says, "no impeachment on his (Maurice's) character that he should nourish thoughts in which there was nothing criminal," and which, we may add, the circumstances of his position seemed to suggest.

But Barneveld could not support his wishes. Granted that no other monarch was possible, and that at one time a monarch was desirable, the circumstances had changed, and what the Advocate had wished once, he wished no longer. The Princess of Orange, Louise de Coligny, the

widow of William the Silent, sought to enlist his influence on behalf of her stepson, but in vain. It appeared to him good neither for Maurice himself nor for the Commonwealth to accede to his request. The people who in their extremity would have welcomed any sovereign who would have undertaken to free them from Spain, were, in his judgment, too well satisfied with the independence they had won again to entangle themselves in a yoke of possible bondage to any king. "Now that they had achieved peace and independence, and were delivered from the fears of Spanish ferocity and French intrigue, they shuddered at the dangers from royal hands out of which they had at last escaped, and he believed they would be capable of tearing in pieces any one who might make the desired proposition. After all, he urged, Maurice was a hundred times more fortunate as he was than if he should succeed in desires so opposed to his own good." Barneveld was as sound in judgment, as patriotic in spirit, as true to Maurice as he was loyal to his country; but Maurice's ambition was too deeply engaged for him to perceive it, and thus began a struggle which brought disaster to the statesman, discredit to the prince, and scandal to the nation. With some of its points we shall deal in a future article.

## THE TWENTY-NINTH CENTURY.\*

Several works have recently appeared presenting an imaginative forecast of the possible, or perhaps we had better say the impossible, future history of this world. Some of them have been written without any perceptible purpose, except the indulgence for their own sake of the vagaries of a grotesque fancy; in others opportunity has been taken, in feeble imitation of the masterpieces of Swift, to present ironical contrasts or exaggerations of the foibles of our own day. Here, however, is a work, in certain respects one of the most singular in modern literature, which surpasses all of its class in bold and luxuriant imagination, in vivid descriptive power, in startling, not to say extravagant suggestions, in lofty and delicate moral sympathies. It is difficult to read it with a serious countenance, yet it is impossible not to read it with curious interest, and sometimes with profound admiration. The author's imagination hath run mad, but often there is more in his philosophy than the world may dream of.

"I, Diogenes Milton," says the author, "was born in the year of our Lord, July 4th, 2778." Such had been the progress of the world at that time, that boys, we are told, enjoyed school "more than in days of yore," "they enjoyed the vacation." We don't wonder at it, when under the guidance of Herodotus Macaulay, they studied the Bible in Palestine, and ancient history in such an easy way as spending the morning at Marathon, the afternoon at Thermopylae, and the evening on the Ganges. Plutarch Johnson taught the young Diogenes biography, and Cervantes Smith wit and humour. At thirteen years of age he left his home in Africa in an aerial vessel to pay a visit to the world's metropolis—Constantinople, whose vast extent and gorgeous buildings of precious stones are described with singular fluency of imagination; but in the twenty-ninth century precious stones are to be more plentiful than bricks are now, and to be made as easily. Here, also, are telescopic mirrors in which the cities of the whole earth are seen in a glance, scientific ears of Dionysius so delicate as to render distinct the vibratory sound of the millionth part of a grain of matter, and auroscopes by means of which the hum of waves in the South Seas, the singing of birds in Australia, and the music of a concert going on in South America are heard. These are ridiculously small wonders compared with those that are to come, and for which the intending reader of this book should be strengthened by every reviewer to prepare himself.

The occasion of Diogenes Milton's visit to the world's metropolis was to attend the Parliament of man held in that city in the year 2789. We are introduced to it, and its proceedings are described. Amongst these were bills for the further training of the lower animals, for teaching quadrupeds to fly, for redeeming a few hundred square miles of water and for levelling the everlasting hills. These were passed, and, as we are subsequently told, the hills were levelled, with the attendant circumstances of the volcanoes being destroyed and the seas submerged. This work being accomplished, our author visited the new Tower of Babel in America, built of diamonds, rubies,

\* *The Life and Death of John de Barneveld, Advocate of Holland.* By JOHN LOTHROP MOTLEY, D.C.L. Two Vols. (London John Murray.)

\* *The Annals of the Twenty-Ninth Century; or the Autobiography of the Sixth President of the World Republic.* Three Vols. (S. Tinsley.)

and amethysts, "to celebrate the occasion when, by God's grace, the world was again blessed with a universal tongue." A short expedition was then taken to London once the capital of "the small country mal-named Great Britain, once, also, 'the muddle of masonry,' and the 'piebald metropolis of virtue and vice.'" London had long capitulated before a Chinese invasion, and was destroyed first by the invader and subsequently by an earthquake, with, however, little loss of life, for our city had still its "ten righteous men"; but the London of vice and corruption was wiped off the stage of existence for a new and millennial London to take its place. The sites of Oxford and Cambridge were also visited. The universities were in ruins, indicative of the fall of bigotry; and, as the boat-race is now once more upon us, perhaps we cannot do better than give a hint of one manner of our author by quoting a line or two thereon—

"Indicatory of the depraved tone of the Universities, history tells us that in the nineteenth century their scholarship did not cause such intense sensation as their patronage of exhibitions of brute force. The great feature of the season was a race between some amateur watermen belonging to their respective universities. The two crews, armed with poles, manned two planks, and amid the cheers of onlooking millions on both sides of the Thames, they flustered, huffed, and struggled, to beat each other in the menial act of paddling. For fifty years such insane and insane performances continued, though their palpable effect was to make the students' minds martyrs to their muscles, and to sow the seeds of betting and debauchery among the public."

From England our author went to the world's factories established in Greenland, where the operations for controlling the weather, equalising the climate of the globe, and boring through the earth, etc., were carried forward on a scale compared with which our so-called Cyclopean works are Lilliputian. We find, also, the beasts of the forest—now no longer savage—the birds of the air, the fishes of the sea, and the insects of the earth, all happily utilised by man to do his work, and delighted in its performance. They helped, for instance, to build the first bridge that spanned the Atlantic! We cannot follow the author through the whole status of science and literature, but it may be remarked that he published a work upon those subjects—written, of course, in millennial shorthand—and "in the morning it was printed; at midday it was dispersed all over the world, and in the evening the newspapers contained oracles upon it."

In the year 2807 the world's religious assembly was held, presided over by Calvin Luther. We find the religion of that day somewhat different, as may be supposed, from the religion of the present. Universal love to God and man is to pervade the whole earth without denominations, without creeds or confessions, without a thought of rivalry. The change occurred in the twentieth century—

"Union was the Aurora of the Church's day. The clouds which had filled the religious atmosphere with unceasing storms, were then dispersed, and first forth-shone the sun of truth. The winter of the Church merged into spring, and we are now glorying in the harvest. The Church is liberated from State fetters. The days of isms and schisms are ended. Rivalry no longer exists between congregations, nor are members perplexed with a needless multiplicity of churches and Church-rates. Though the magnificent improvements in the arts, one tabernacle suffices for a city. Our cathedrals with their amazing aggregation of concentric galleries, aisles, and naves, accommodate half a million of sitters, while the acoustical tubes so carry the word of God into every house, that every city is one large synagogue, every chamber a chapel, and the aged and infirm, even when in bed, are participators in public worship."

This is no little, but let us add that the world also had, at this time, only one newspaper, printed at the world's press office, in Panama; Walter Bennett being superintendent. "Millions" of numbers were thrown off every minute, and "despatched onwards to Asia and Australia, 'in order that their inhabitants might enjoy 'their news at breakfast.'" Diogenes Milton's labour on the News Reform Commission first brought him before mankind, and he succeeded Bolingbroke Swift as President of Siberia. Soon after this we come across the first attempted voyage to the moon, in a balloon—Diogenes being one of the voyagers. The object failed for the time, but the voyage is described, as is everything else in this book, with great wealth of imagination and language. The world's Parliament again met, and Diogenes Milton was now chosen a member. In 2832 the whole of the sons of men assembled together to choose a president, commencing their labour with singing with united hearts and voices, "Behold how good a thing 'it is for brethren to dwell together in unity,' and closing it with the Hundredth Psalm. After this came the invention by Mr. Milton of the astronomical gun, to send missiles to the planets and the commencement of intra-bomb voyages to those regions—an idea borrowed, clearly, from Jules Verne. The first of these

voyages was undertaken by the author alone in a properly-fitted bomb-shell. It failed, but a second attempt succeeded. The greater part of the second volume of this work is occupied with a description of the moon and its inhabitants, some of it written with great poetical beauty. We are told that none but lower animals inhabited the planet, but with the facilities soon established for communication with the earth, it was soon peopled by millions of the human race. Mr. Milton was chosen its governor, but in course of time left, and was subsequently chosen, himself, to the superior post of president of the United World and Moon. About this time, with the aid of chemistry, Night was abolished!

Is not all this enough? No, more is to come! The next great fact in the world's history was the reception of a message from Jupiter, which is described, as well as subsequent communications. Then the author is sent to Venus. Here our pen is cautioned to stop, not from any particular shock to our nerves, but to let the author tell his own tale, which is a fine prose poem. He found the inhabitants of Venus "the untarnished and unmutated 'images of the Most High,' and he was 'blinded with the light of their heavenly wisdom.'" What do they think of us? They know part of our melancholy history, and have nothing but pity, compassion, and love to us. Human intellects, affections, bodies, are gross beyond description in comparison with them. "Thank God," says the author, "that man 'knows not his own hideousness.'" He described the state of the earth to the Venusians—the description is given—and one of them described to him the condition of Hell. This description is powerful but repulsive, and its features are so obviously suggested by the "Inferno," and its doctrine of physical torture so grossly conceived, that we revolt from it. Its purpose—to show the hideousness of sin—is perceptible enough, but it is to be hoped that Diogenes Milton does not fairly indicate what will be the state of opinion a thousand years hence. The Venusians subsequently visited this world, and just as the author had written this autobiography he was about to take the first trip to Jupiter.

Books of this kind are senseless or sensible in proportion as they travel on natural lines of thought; that is, in proportion as they carry on the future from the past and the present. The defect of this work—considered simply as a work of art—is its amusing exaggeration of scientific discovery, which outstrips all its other wonders. The fact is, that there is more room for the exercise of the imagination on this line, although we grant that the ideals of Earth life and Venusian life, described by the author, indicate a lofty height of political and moral sympathy. But we have read his work with almost equal feelings of pleasure, wonderment, and amusement, and this, we think, will be the feeling of most of its readers. On the whole, it is a book of remarkable novelty and unquestionable genius.

#### WOMEN WORKERS.\*

This book contains a deal of information carefully gathered together and fairly well-condensed; but we are rather afraid that its purpose will be found to spoil it, save in the eyes of a limited number of readers. The author, who has thought a great deal on some social questions, as his "Contrasts" amply proved to us, and done what not all his confreres are so self-denying as to do—taken time to test and establish his positions by ample reserves of facts and details—here argues the question whether Protestant or Roman Catholic women really accomplish most in the way of benevolent work. He does not, of course, condemn sisterhoods, for he sees clearly enough that much force must be lost without some sort of union and organisation, which the nearer it approaches in some respects to this, is actually the most effective; and, indeed, his very regard for the organisers and administrators who make others carry out their schemes so far, and thus obtain a great measure of outward success and repute, is so far inconsistent. The women he celebrates are the very women who come nearest to the Catholic Superior or Mother Abbess, and, like her, through very force of circumstances, they are brought more or less to look with favour on the doing of good works by deputy, so far as elaborate machineries must ever imply this. But there must be a vast deal of quiet silent charity done among us that never leads to institution-founding and annual reports. And he makes, we think, rather prominent the merely subordinate matter of uniform or ordinary dress in those who go into low localities.

\* *Facta non Verba.* By the Author of "Contrasts." (W. Isbister and Co.)

He repeats the statement that Christian ladies in ordinary dress go into the vilest places—haunts of criminals and evil-doers of every sort, and carry out their good work there without interruption or obstacle of any kind even in places where policemen go only in couples; but this proves rather the reverence that humanity, at its very lowest, does half-instinctively to women when engaged in fulfilling the Saviour's command—to preach and heal and save. On his own showing it is the knowledge of these ladies and of their high purpose which saves them from interference; and as any special dress would be but a symbol of this, making still more clearly visible the object of the visitor even to a stranger, we cannot say that we altogether share his desire to make a point against the Catholics in this, more especially as Protestant sisterhoods of the most Evangelical type, such as that of Kaiserswerth and that of Dr. Laceron at Tottenham, find an advantage in the sisters being dressed alike.

But passing from this, the author starts a question which, as it is impossible satisfactorily to settle it by means of such facts as are available, we regret that he opens it in the way he does. If, as he inclines to assert, the best work must always be done by such ladies as are of individuality sufficiently strong to stand apart and mark out a way for themselves, then we do think his idea is discouraging and, at the same time, rather inconsistently yields itself too much to the insinuating worship of mere outward success. No one can doubt Miss Agnes Jones's thorough sincerity, and yet she distinctly says that she does not advise ladies to follow the course she had pursued, knowing that her character and circumstances were exceptional, and that many ways of good doing were left open to those who might not be able specially to devote themselves as she had done. The whole question, indeed, leads up to much the same difficulty as the recent discussions about prayer resolved themselves into. Good works, taken in the highest point of view, will not tabulate for easy comparison, for the simple reason that the best part of a good work—the spirit in which it is done—will not yield itself to any such exact record. The machinery may be perfect, and the outward results favourable, and yet an institution may be the outcome of ostentation, rivalry, &c.

How easy it would be to select as against this author a handful of Roman Catholic women, and recounting their wonderful enterprises and successes, say—"No Protestant has done like 'that.'" There is Mother Mary Hallahan, for example, a poor Irish servant-girl, who founded several institutions; and if it is said that she would have done more had she been a Protestant, the *Tu quoque* for the Catholic is easily guessed. "Can you point to an ignorant servant-girl who has done so much? Your 'heroines at least are all ladies, and educated and prepared for such work; but not so 'Mother Mary.'" we can imagine the Catholic to add. The fact is, good works have been done both by Roman Catholics and Protestants, and it is sheer waste of time to argue about the relative results. One thing Protestants can do—learn a lesson from the Catholics against over-centralisation, the great error in which in charity work, as in so many other departments, we are only too much inclined to follow them.

Turning to the sketches of the women we have here, they are most interesting and readable, though we observe that the information respecting some of them—from which the writer has proceeded—is not quite recent. Mrs. Hilton, at the Ratcliffe Crèche, has had in existence for nearly a year a much-required infirmary on the upper floor, to which this author makes reference as a thing needed and desired. Some changes, too, have taken place in Miss Carpenter's institutions at Bristol since his visit to them. Perhaps the most perfect chapters of the book, and the most interesting, are those on Mary Merryweather, Adeline Cooper, and Johanna Chandler. Miss Cooper's labours among the poor and degraded folks of Westminster deserve all the praise bestowed on them. How she managed in the face of fees many, to start that costermongers' club, and how she managed to keep the beer out of it, is very striking. Not less so the story of Miss Chandler, who was led to think of the sad condition of the paralysed poor by having a near relative of her own struck down by that disease, and who, by efforts unceasing, managed at last to get the public interested in her cause, and to secure support, until now there stands in Queen-square the Hospital for the Epileptic and Paralysed, with its hundreds of in-patients and out-patients, its pensions for hopeless sufferers, and last, not least, its almost perfect application of electricity and all other special remedies. Then Miriam Harris—a lady who has done a gigantic

work among the poor Jews—is admirably sketched—the writer, in spite of a certain cold, dry style that besets him, passing into real eloquence over some of her works; as he does also in the case of Miss Sarah Robinson—a lady who, in spite of spinal disease, has victoriously carried out an idea of hers to give the poor soldiers in camp or in barracks a chance to be at once sober and warm. During the Autumn Manœuvres she has gone in a van and administered a regular system of service of hot coffee to the men at various points: not only so, but at Cannock Chase she opened a tent for them, where they could write letters or have letters written for them, established a system by which the men could send home their spare money by post-office orders—money that before had either been stolen from them, or ill-spent, because it was so hard for them to keep it. Miss Robinson's store of bread was even on one occasion found useful to the Commissariat. Miss Robinson is now engaged in founding a Soldiers' Institute at Portsmouth; and this writer does not seem to be aware that Government has recalled the grant of the site for it, because of some alleged difficulty about Roman Catholics and religious teaching; and that now Miss Robinson is eagerly canvassing for subscriptions to procure one.

The stories of these noble women are so well told, that we regret deeply the author did not give us sketches of one or two more in the space which he has, as we think, most maladroitly occupied with a fruitless discussion—in which we are not quite sure that he will always have the full sympathy of the very ladies whose cause he vain would help.

#### MR. MARTINEAU'S HYMNBOOK.\*

The task which Mr. Martineau undertook a good many years since, and which he has now taken up again with a view to improvement, was one of grave difficulty. He had to get the appearance of a complete hymnal, while the first conditions required that he should surrender much of the first quality. For there can be no doubt that, looked at in a purely literary point of view, the dogma of the divinity of Christ, say, has a distinctively poetic side, which has seized the highest imaginations, and possessed them with a sort of "rapture" such as mere general conceptions of God's providence and guidance (ideas indeed common to the highest phases of Pagan religion) could ever elicit. And Mr. Martineau has shown his exquisite tact and Catholicity in giving place to some of these, though with such modification or implied interpretation as relieves him from any sense of having obtrusively passed beyond the line which his Church relations may be presumed to have laid down for him. And so very apt and wise and expressive, and, we may add, delicately personal, are his confessions in the preface, that we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of quoting them:—

"If," says he, "there be any who can waft their souls to God on Vedic hymns, or toll upward by the steps of Gentile metaphysics, far be it from me to question the efficacy of the exercise; it may possibly be as good for them as singing the Athanasian Creed. But for myself, both conviction and feeling keep me close to the poetry and the piety of Christendom. It is my native air, and in no other can I breathe; and wherever it passes, it softens and feeds the roots of character, and nurtures such grace and balance of affection, that for any climate similarly rich in elements of perfect life, I look in vain elsewhere. . . . In determining what to retain, and what to drop, of doubtful materials, I have not been guided by any considerations of critical authority; still less by the rule of my own personal belief; but by such estimate as I could make of the continued hold of Scripture incident on the devout affections of those for whom I worked. It is not the business of a hymn-editor either to relax or to overstrain the dependence of religious feeling on historical association; but to provide a voice for actual affections, neither leaving them behind by saying too much, nor falling to bear them aloft by a breath too faint and feeble. . . . The religious feelings under which this book is produced, have determined the literary principles followed in its compilation. It is offered to a Nonconformist Broad Church by an editor whose prevailing feeling carries him less to Broad Church sources than to other springs—Catholic, mystical, semi-Puritan, Lutheran, Wesleyan,—and gives him, therefore, what he most loves, and what speaks most truly for him."

It is surely difficult to empty Mr. Josiah Conder's exquisite hymn—"Hallelujah, raise 'O raise"—of some Trinitarian significance, or at least suggestion; nor is it possible to represent fully Watts, Wesley, Doddridge, Toplady, Lyte, Heber, and Horatius Bonar, without some notes of their most distinctive beliefs being more or less clearly heard; and what would a Christian hymn-book be without these? But it does say something for the wonderful solidarity of Christian conviction that all these do appear here without having undergone very noticeable editing; and that a professed Unitarian can be so wide and generously inclusive as Mr. Mar-

\* *Hymns of Praise and Prayer.* Collected and Edited by JAMES MARTINEAU, LL.D. (Longmans.)

timeau has been in this new hymn-book. Certainly some of our favourites we miss. Dean Alford is not represented at all; and it is true he often lacked concentration; but the harvest hymn and the baptismal hymn are almost perfect, and we are surprised not to find at least the former here, the more especially that Professor Blackie's "Angels holy, high and lowly" has a place, with its artifices, inversions, compound words, and double rhymes. We think, too, that Henry Downton has written one or two hymns highly suitable for such a collection, and Alice Cary a few surpassingly so. But it is easy to omit good hymns: the question is rather whether the collection is uniformly up to a high literary standard. We observe that Mr. Martineau has been very successful in some slight amendments in Miss Waring's hymns, but hardly so much so as the committee who edited the Church of Scotland hymn-book. And we can say for Mr. Martineau that he has shown throughout tact, taste and judgment, and made a real addition to our hymnology.

#### SCHOOL BOOKS.

*The Public School Series.* Primer Parts I. and II., and Readers I., II., III., IV., V. (Strahan and Co., London.) These are the first issue of a new series of school books, to be distinguished as "The Public School Series." We have gone carefully through these reading-books, and have been greatly pleased with their contents, both as interesting in manner and instructive in the selection and arrangement of subjects. They are admirably illustrated, well printed, and skilfully edited. The name of the editor is not given, but he comes to his work with a fresh mind, and selects very judiciously the pieces in which children delight. He seems to be well read in Jean Paul Richter; for not only does he give a quotation in the preface from his writings in education, but every title-page has a motto, and those are from Richter's works. The series is of course progressive, and as we reach the higher portion of it the reading-lessons are on scientific and historical subjects, and are adapted for the exercise of the memory as well as for elocutionary purposes. On the whole, we cordially commend these books to the notice of teachers and public school committees.

*Manuals of Religious Instruction for Pupil-Teachers.* Edited by J. P. NORRIS, M.A., Canon of Bristol. *The Catechism and Liturgy*, by the Editor. First year's course. *The Old Testament*, by the Rev. E. J. GREGORY, M.A. First year's course. *The New Testament*, by C. T. WINTER. First year's course. (London: Rivingtons.) The usual course of pupil teachers extends over five years; each of these manuals is the first of five parts to be issued corresponding to the years. We like the manner better than the matter of these books. If these subjects must be taught in our elementary schools they can hardly be presented in a more lucid and simple manner. But we should very seriously question how far the kind of teaching contained in these manuals can be entrusted to the average pupil-teacher for communication to children still younger than himself. Nevertheless, to those who want clear explanations according to orthodox standards of the Bible and Prayer-book, we can confidently recommend these manuals.

*National Standard Course.* *The New Fifth Standard Reader.* *The New Sixth Standard Reader.* (London: John Marshall and Co.) These readers are edited by Mr J. S. Laurie, formerly one of the inspectors of national schools. They have had the advantage of his knowledge of what school-books should be; and they are carefully adapted to the requirements of the Revised Code. We observe that two editions are published, one cheaper than the other. The one before us is a little more than a shilling, and it is certainly a cheap book, strongly bound.

*Murby's Series.* *Natural Philosophy.* Part II. and III. *Hydrostatics, Hydraulics, and Pneumatics.* By J. ALFRED SKERTCHLEY. (London: Murby, Bouverie-street.) This is the second part of a work, the first part of which we have already favourably noticed. Another part is yet to follow. We can confidently recommend this to the notice of teachers. It is simple, comprehensive, and practical. The exercises collected at the end are very valuable.

*Home and Class-book of Arithmetical Questions.* By J. STEWART, N.C.P. (London: C. Bean, 81, New North-road, Hoxton.) A very useful collection of arithmetical questions. The examination papers supply a want in schools that has been long felt. The work is a boon to teachers.

*COLLINS' SCHOOL SERIES.*—*The Elements and Practice of Algebra*; for the Use of Schools and Colleges. By JAMES LOUDON, M.A., Mathematical Tutor and Dean, University College, Toronto. (London and Glasgow: William Collins, Son and Co.) It is scarcely possible to produce an algebra that shall be quite novel in its exposition of principles or methods of working, nor is it altogether desirable. But this little work has merits of a high order, and some that are peculiarly its own. It will not supersede works of the kind now in use, but it may be profitably used with them. In the explanation of principles it excels, in the number of examples it is deficient.

*A History of English Literature*; for Junior Classes. By FREDERICK A. LAING. (London and Glasgow: W. Collins, Son and Co.) This is a collection of slight notices of the lives and works of the chief writers of the English language, with one or more short examples of the style of each writer. The work appears to us to be too short to be of much value as a history, and too long to be committed to the memory of scholars. But it may serve as a good index of, or book of reference to, English literature.

*The Singing Class Book*; for Use in Elementary Schools. By ORLANDO J. STIMPSON, Mus. Bac. Oxon. (Collins and Co., Glasgow.) A book of this kind was needed in elementary schools. The subject has not hitherto been taught in a sufficiently systematic manner. We have great pleasure in calling attention to this manual, of which the author may himself be permitted to speak. "It is a system which I have used for nearly twenty years in class teaching, and is based upon similar principles to that of the Tonic Sol-Fa method; though I prefer the use of Old Notation to that used by the advocates of that system."

*Outlines of Natural Philosophy.* Adapted for Upper Classes in Elementary and Middle-class Schools. By BENTHAM SIMPSON, science teacher. *Animal Physiology*; the Structure and Functions of the Human Body. By JOHN CLELAND, M.D., F.R.S., Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in Queen's College, Galway. *Physical Geography.* By JOHN YOUNG, M.D. *New Code Progressive Reader.* Sixth Standard. (Collins.) These works on natural science are like all the former publications of this series, among the most useful manuals we have. The "Animal Physiology" and "Physical Geography" belong to the Advanced Science Series. The Sixth Standard Reader is largely made up of scientific papers.

*Text Book of English Composition*; for the Use of Schools. By THOMAS MORRISON, M.A., Rector of the Free Church Normal School, Glasgow. (Collins and Co.) This is the work of a practised teacher. It is both analytical and constructive. In the first part it is clear, and avoids the unnecessary technicalities which are so often introduced into books on this subject. The constructive part is helpful to the learner. It provides materials for composition in a natural and easy manner.

#### BRIEF NOTICES.

*Other Men's Minds; or Two Thousand choice Extracts, &c.* By E. DAVIES, D.D. With steel illustrations. (Frederick Warne and Co.) This is a monster book of quotations. On the whole, the principle—by no means a bad one—is very fairly carried out, indicating wide reading, systematic note-taking,—thorough industry, in one word. We have looked through it with much pleasure, only regretting that now and again puny and inadequate utterances are given, whilst really magnificent passages have been occasionally mutilated for the sake of saving a very little space. The plan is to arrange alphabetically by subject; and we confess we think it a mistake in a work of this kind to give an index of authors (and this is a very neat biographical index) without references to the text. Mistakes in such a piece of work are inevitable: but here—at least in the first half of the book—they are almost too numerous, and should of course, be carefully attended to in another edition. These are a few:—"Vernunft" should be "Vernunft" under Kant in list of authors; "Christenthum oder Europe" is the title of the tract attributed to Novalis, but now found not to be his; Keats' lines on "Beauty" should have inserted the words in brackets here:—

"Spite of dependence, and the inhuman dearth  
Of noble natures, of [the] gloomy days,  
Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darken'd ways  
Made for our searching [yes,] in spite of all";  
"heat" should be "beal" in Wordsworth's lines on Abundant Charities; "without" should be "within" in second line of quotation from Dr. George Wilson on "Dreams"; in Mrs. Hemans'

"Homes of England," "songs" should, for rhyme's sake, be "song" in fifth line of second stanza, and "bird" should be "birds" in the last line quoted; in extract from Townshend on "Faith" "it" should go at end of second line from end; "grateful" "errors" in quotation from Blair on "Friendship" is surely an error itself; and Stephens surely did not write History as the compliment of poetry. Typographical errors are inevitable in a work of such a nature; and we take leave of the book by saying that, in spite of some minor faults, it is well calculated to be a most useful work of reference, and that for a Christmas or birthday present it is admirable.

**NEW MUSIC.**—*Gavotte Moderne en Ut*. By BERTHOLD TOURS. (Weekes and Co.) One of the most original and musical modern pieces it has been our good fortune to meet with for some time. There is a spirit and airiness about it which is quite refreshing in these days of dull and commonplace compositions. It has, moreover, the recommendation of being tolerably easy. *The Russian National Hymn*; arranged for the piano by BATTON SMITH (Weekes and Co.) A pleasing and rather brilliant arrangement of moderate difficulty. *The Word and the Look*. By G. A. B. BEECHROFT. (Weekes and Co.) This is a sentimental little song which is set to pretty tuneful music rather above than below the average of modern songs. It is arranged for a mezzo-soprano voice of moderate compass.

### Miscellaneous.

**ARCHBISHOP MANNING AND THE PUBLICANS.**—Archbishop Manning, in speaking last night at Exeter Hall on the subject of temperance, remarked that if this enormous traffic continued to extend itself year after year unchecked, the day would come when Parliament would be unable to cope with it; and its influence over the people of this country would then be so strong, that by it the votes of electors and electors would be determined. He looked upon this as one of the gravest evils of the present day.

**THE LAND TRANSFER BILL.**—The London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury* writes:—"I am informed that the Lord Chancellor's bill for facilitating the transfer of land will be practically identical with that which his predecessor, Lord Selborne, had proposed to introduce. The bill was prepared chiefly by the present Vice-Chancellor Hall, previous to his elevation to the bench, in consultation with Lord Selborne. The main feature is the compulsory registration of all titles on the sale and transfer of estates. It is proposed by this means not only to turn to some practical utility the expensive and hitherto neglected machinery invented by the late Lord Westbury, known as the law registry office, but also to make the certificate of the office a sufficient as well as indispensable proof of the soundness of a title. The immediate result of such a measure will clearly be to increase the receipts and bills of solicitors and conveyancers, but it may and probably will ultimately tend to substitute an official title for a legal one."

**THE BEST WALLPAPER.**—This term is applied to a variety of coal which has long been famous in the metropolis. It was originally worked from a spot on the north bank of the Tyne, near the eastern termination of the rampart of Severus; but the pits there have been exhausted for many years, and it was in consequence stated during the investigation of recent coal-scandals in the London police-courts, and without contradiction, that there was no such coal to be had now as genuine "Wall-end." This, however, is not altogether true, as we learn from a circular issued by the well-known and highly-respectable firm of Messrs. G. Cockerell and Co., who inform us that although the original pits, as we have stated, are exhausted, yet "for at least fifty years past the term 'Best Wall-end' has been applied to certain coals worked from the same seam in Northumberland and Durham, which rank as the most valuable for household purposes, and is, in this respect, as distinctive a term as ever it was."

**THE PRINCE IMPERIAL AS A SPEAKER.**—A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, who was present at the Chislehurst demonstration last week, says:—"The Prince Imperial is said to have pronounced his speech with much feeling and premature eloquence; one of your contemporaries speaks of his 'graceful elocution' and 'brilliant and amiable accomplishments.' I happened to be present; the Prince Imperial read his speech from a piece of paper he held in his hand, and from this boy of eighteen, who hardly looks his age, there was no attempt whatever at 'graceful elocution' and 'preocious eloquence,' for he did nothing but what might have been expected from a lad of his years—that is, he read off his address with little or no accentuation at all. He may be endowed with 'brilliant and amiable qualities,' but until this day I am not aware that he has given thereof any public token, and it would be wiser to wait until he has to describe them. I mention this because the irrepressible popular tendency to daub titled persons with qualities they do not possess does too much harm, and creates legends which often make a man of genius of a dullard."

**DEATH OF MR. JOHN CANDLIH.**—We regret to announce the death of Mr. Candlish, one of the Liberal members for Sunderland in the last Parliament. The deceased gentleman never recovered strength after undergoing an operation of tracheotomy several weeks ago whilst staying at Cannes, where he died. Mr. Candlish was born in 1816, at Bellingham, Northumberland, and was educated at a private school at Bishopwearmouth. He was a shipowner of Sunderland, of which borough he was an alderman, and twice filled the office of mayor. At the general election of 1865 he unsuccessfully contested Sunderland, when Mr. Henry Fenwick, a Liberal, who had represented the borough eleven years, was returned in conjunction with Mr. Alderman Hartley, a Liberal Conservative. A few months afterwards, on Lord Russell succeeding to the Premiership, Mr. Fenwick was appointed a Lord of the Admiralty, and on presenting himself for re-election he was opposed by Mr. Candlish and defeated. At the general election of 1868 Mr. Candlish was returned at the head of the poll with Mr. Gourley, one of the present members, as his colleague. Owing to the failure of his health, however, he did not again come forward when the late Parliament was dissolved in January last. Mr. Candlish was a sound and earnest Liberal, who lost no opportunity of enforcing the necessity of economy in the public expenditure, and of establishing a thoroughly national and unsectarian system of education.

**STORMS ON THE ATLANTIC.**—Some of the ocean steamers which have just crossed the Atlantic passed through storms which the captains state to have been as violent as any they have ever experienced. The Allan steamer Scandinavian, Captain Smith, which left Liverpool for Portland on the 19th of February, passed through the whole series. Two days after her departure a heavy gale sprang up, and continued till the evening of the 26th of February, when the wind veered to the south-west, the barometer fell rapidly, and a cyclone burst upon the vessel with terrific force. A wave struck the bridge, and knocked Captain Smith and the first officer insensible, twisted iron stanchions like twigs, and moved the bridge proper some distance from its position. Captain Smith fortunately soon recovered and resumed command. At noon the next day the wind dropped to a dead calm, but the barometer still continued low, and about four o'clock the hurricane again burst upon them. This continued till the night of the 27th, and on the night of the 28th another fearful hurricane came on and continued to rage until the 5th of March, when it abated, and on the following day the Scandinavian reached Portland. During the voyage Lieutenant Bisbee, of the Royal Engineers, committed suicide by shooting himself. He suffered from ill-health, and it is supposed that the effects of the storm on his shattered nerves turned his brain. The screw-steamer Phœnician, belonging to the same company, passed through the same hurricane, and was considerably damaged.

**NATIONAL TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.**—On Tuesday night last week, a special meeting was held in Exeter Hall, under the auspices of the National Temperance League, for the purpose of giving an opportunity to various medical gentlemen to bear their testimony, grounded on long and extensive experience, as to the baneful effects of alcoholic drinks. There was a numerous attendance of the general public. Sir Walter C. Trevelyan, who presided, remarked that hitherto the drinking customs of the country were supposed to be confined to men, but latterly women had become addicted to the vice, and that evil result he attributed to the law which authorised the sale of intoxicating liquors by grocers and confectioners. He also condemned the conduct of the Commissioners of the International Exhibition in classing tobacco and wine among the principal articles shown, and charged them with thus constituting themselves advertisers or agents for the sale of these commodities. Amongst the subsequent speakers, all of whom denounced even the moderate use of intoxicating liquors as ruinous to the mental, moral, and physical condition of the human race, were Dr. Inman, Brighton; Dr. Lamb, Hull; Dr. Ridge, Enfield; Dr. Crespi, Birmingham; Dr. Klein, Paris; Dr. Branthwaite, Willesden; Dr. Mitchell, Kentish-town; and Dr. Spencer, Holloway. At the close of the proceedings, which were protracted to a late hour, hearty votes of thanks were passed to the chairman, and to the medical gentlemen who, by their excellent speeches, had contributed to the instructive character of the evening.

**DR. LIVINGSTONE'S REMAINS.**—At the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on Monday, Sir Bartle Frere said that the latest news received concerning the remains of Dr. Livingstone was that they had been conveyed by the expedition now under the charge of Lieutenant Murphy to within a short distance of the coast, and Chumah, the doctor's faithful servant, had preceded the expedition to Zanzibar to report its approach. Lieutenant Cameron had returned to Unyanyembe, and had gone on thence to Ujiji to obtain the letters and journals of Dr. Livingstone yet remaining there. Mr. Stanley, who had been the last white man who had seen Dr. Livingstone alive, had lately returned to England and had told him (Sir B. Frere) that it was possible that as many as twelve of the Naasick boys who had been with the Doctor would return to Zanzibar with the body. The Rev. Mr. Waller said he had himself assisted Dr. Livingstone to free Chumah from slavery, and knew his character well from his boyhood. It was a mere accident that Lieutenants Cameron and

Murphy had met Chumah at Unyanyembe. They had assisted him and set the expedition up for the further march, but we should not allow this expedition of Chumah's to be tacked on to Cameron's expedition. The task which Chumah and his expedition had performed had been Herculean. They had gone against the prejudices and superstitions of the natives, and this at no small risk. He hoped that they would ere long appear on the platform before the society, and though Chumah laboured under the great disadvantage of being a black man and not a white, he hoped he would receive the honour due to him for his fidelity and courage under most trying difficulties. The president said nothing could have been further from his thoughts than any wish to deprive Chumah of his well-deserved praise; he was certain they would all be ready to do justice to all those who had stood by Dr. Livingstone, whether their skins were black or white. A telegram from Aden announces the arrival there of the remains of Dr. Livingstone from Zanzibar.

**A GHOST HUNT ON THE HIGHLAND RAILWAY.**—Writing from Kilmorich, a correspondent of the *Dundee Advertiser* says that a strange-looking being, apparently a ghost, has been seen for some time back every Sunday night walking on the embankments of the Highland Railway between Ballinluig and Guay. The apparition always made its appearance after dark, but little or no notice was taken of it until recently, when a gentleman coming along that part of the line was suddenly struck with the vision beside him of a woman clothed in white. So dumbfounded was the gentleman, and so horror-stricken, that he fell to the ground with fear; but after a short time he recovered himself and was able to proceed home, which he reached unmolested. Last Sunday night a body of young men, assisted by a powerful dog, set out in pursuit of the ghost. They had only gone a short distance when (according to our correspondent) they suddenly saw the form of a female sitting on the bank. Some of the party were naturally a little put about, but the others had fortunately the presence of mind to stand and challenge the ghostly visitor. All attempts to get the figure to speak proved fruitless. It rose, and with slow and measured strides walked off through the fields towards the forest of Athole. The party followed up closely till near Countlich, when the ghost quickening its steps turned to the left towards a small village called Kindallochan. The pursuers being close behind, the ghost, apparently driven to extremities, betook itself to its heels, and made off as fast as its legs could carry it. The men and dog, however, were nowise daunted, and kept up a hot pursuit. At last the ghost ran to earth, faced about, threw off its disguise, and to the surprise and astonishment of the pursuers, they discovered that the object of their pursuit was a harmless old maid residing in the village named. Winding up his graphic description, the correspondent expresses the modest hope that "all the old maids of all the villages in Perthshire will remain inside their houses in future, and not cause so much annoyance to those who happen to be in the neighbourhood of the Highland Railway late at nights." So endeth the story of the "Kindallochan ghost."

### Glennings.

A sensitive Californian committed suicide recently because the Legislature wouldn't change his name.

"Where are you going?" asked a little boy of another, who had slipped on an icy pavement. "Going to get up!" was the blunt reply.

A gentleman writing a letter concluded it as follows: "Give everybody's love to everybody, so that nobody may be aggrieved by anybody being forgotten by somebody."

"What is heaven's best gift to man?" asked a young lady, smiling sweetly on a pleasant-looking clerk. "A hoar," replied the young man, with great prudence.

It is stated that several Good Templars have been praying before public-houses in London. The result has not been reported. Would it not be better to begin first with some quiet villages?

The *Cambrian News* records the death of Mr. John Jones, formerly hairdresser at Aberystwith, at the age of 102; that Mrs. Mary Brookman, of Hale, near St. Nicholas at Wade, completed her 101st year in September last.

Mr. Millais is said to have disposed of his two Scotch landscapes to Mr. Agnew for 7,000l. On being asked the price at which he valued the works, he mentioned 3,500l. for each, whereupon Mr. Agnew at once wrote him a cheque for 7,000l.

Dr. George Macdonald is contributing a novel entitled, "Malcolm" to one of the Glasgow newspapers, which also appears simultaneously on the other side of the Atlantic in *Lippincott's Magazine*. It is a quaint exposition of Highland life and character.

Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Co. will shortly publish an English edition of the Gospels, illustrated with the Bida etchings that have obtained great success in France. The illustrations are the result of twelve years' labour, the greater part of which time Mr. Bida spent in the Holy Land.

**AN ARTIST'S PROFITS.**—A London correspondent says the two landscapes which Mr. Millais is going to exhibit at the Royal Academy this year have already been sold for 6,000l. The same artist will have two portraits, at least in the Academy, and

as he always got 2000*l.* a piece for these he must be making as much money as a Lord Chancellor.

**SLAMMING.**—Somebody has found out why persons cannot sleep. It is because "there is an accumulation, mainly of carbonic acid, that accumulation being favoured and controlled by reflex action of the nervous system, which thus protects the organism from excessive oxidation, and allows the organism to manifest its normal functional activity through a succeeding rhythmic period." We should not have thought a little thing like this would have kept one awake. Persons who can't sleep, however, should put some of the above thing into their organism before retiring.

**THE MAIN POINT.**—A Southern (United States) paper relates that during the war one of the coloured troops ran away from a fight, and was severely reprimanded by a lieutenant, who asked him, sneeringly, if he thought the company would have missed him much had he been killed. Sambo promptly answered, "Not much, boss; dey don't miss de white folks, much less a poor nigger. But den I would hab miss myself—and dat's de point wid me."

**THE PIANIST AND HIS DUPE.**—A capital story comes from Vienna apropos of Liszt's recent performances in that city. It is said that the great pianist found himself recently in the company of a number of ladies, who begged him in hyperbolic terms to procure for them "the ecstasies, the artistic raptures, which his magnificent talent inevitably produces." He obligingly seated himself at the piano and played. When he had finished some of his admirers had fainted. "Well," said Liszt, "I played wrong notes all through intentionally—so badly, indeed, that I should be turned out of doors at any elementary school of music!"

**UTILITARIANISM.**—At St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, there was an old vicar-choral who loved his dinner "not wisely, but too well." He had bought a fine quarter of mutton, and intended to have it for his Sunday's repast, after the fatigue of chanting the morning service, but forgot to tell his wife in what manner he wished it to be cooked. The good lady, however, was equal to the emergency. In the middle of the *Te Deum* a small boy was observed to creep up the aisle till he came near the choir, where his father was singing, and in a piping treble mingled with the chorus thus: "My mother's got a quarter of mutton, and she don't know what to do-so-o-o wi' it." The father responded: "Let her boil the leg, and roast the loin, and make a dumpling of the su-a-u-et." *Omnis: Amen.*

**A SUIT MADE FROM RAT SKIN.**—An ingenious individual of Liskeard, Cornwall, has for some time past been exhibiting himself in a dress composed from top to toe of rat skin, which he has been collecting for three years and a half. The dress was made entirely by himself. It consists of hat, neckerchief, coat, waistcoat, trousers, tippet, gaiters, and shoes. The number of rats required to complete the suit was 670; and the individual, when thus dressed, appears like one of the Esquimaux described in the travels of Parry and Ross. The tippet or bag is composed of the pieces of skin immediately around the tail of the rats, and is a very curious part of the dress, containing about 600 tails, and those none of the shortest.—"Waste Products," by P. L. Simmonds.

**VANILLA.**—A Scotch pauper lunatic who believed himself to be a millionaire used to describe with much gusto the costly viands daily prepared for him, and served on gold plate, adding that he could not understand why they all tasted of oatmeal. A similar objection might be made to the confectionery of the present day, owing to the extent to which it is pervaded by a flavour of vanilla. The propensity to give the public rather too much of this good thing will be increased by a discovery which, according to the *Scotsman*, has been made in Dr. Hoffmann's laboratory at Berlin, and is published by that journal as especially interesting to the possessors of fir-trees, of which there are many in Scotland. There is, it appears, in the juice of fir-trees, between the wood and the bark, a crystalline substance called coniferin, a glucoside, as chemists call it, which, when acted upon by oxidising agencies, is easily converted to vanillin, the chemical principle of vanilla. As a few grains of this vanillin will flavour at least a dozen ice puddings, and the juice of an ordinary sized fir-tree contains enough coniferin to make five guineas worth of vanillin, it is evident that Scotland can supply all our pastry-cooks with this article without greatly diminishing the forests of fir now about to clothe her hills with the most delicate of vernal green.—"Pall Mall Gazette."

**JUDSON'S SIMPLE DYES** are exceedingly useful household commodities. The process is simple, and result satisfactory, as applied to woollen and silk articles. Shetland shawls or cloths that have become yellow are good subjects for young beginners in the art of dyeing. A basin of water only required; time, five minutes! Judson's Dyes, 6d. per bottle, eighteen colours, of all Chemists and Stationers.

**JUDSON'S THE HINDOO PEN.**—"Shrewsbury Journal" says:—"They are the best pens invented, and it is only bare justice to the patentees to record the fact." They come as a boon and a blessing to men, the Pickwick, the Owl, and the Waverley Pen. 1,200 newspapers recommend Macniven and Cameron's pens. Sold everywhere. Sample box, by post, 1*s.* 1*d.*—2*s.* 3*s.* Blair-street, Edinburgh.

The Rev. JOHN KATTENBURY writes, April 5, 1872:—"I have no hesitation in declaring that Turner's Tamarind Emulsion soothes and removes bronchial irritation and gives strength and tone to the voice." Oct. 8, 1872, the Rev. G. C. Harvard writes: "We always keep the Tamarind Emulsion in our house; it is an excellent thing for hoarseness, and clears the voice most effectually." 1*s.* 1*d.* and 2*s.* 3*d.* per bottle. Sold at 4, Chesapeake; 180, Oxford-street, W.; and all leading chemists in the kingdom.

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

A uniform charge of One Shilling (prepaid) is made for announcements under this heading, for which postage-stamps will be received. All such announcements must be authenticated by the name and address of the sender.]

### BIRTH.

**GLEDSTONE.**—March 7, the wife of the Rev. J. Paterson Gledstone, of Hornsey-rose, London, N., of a son.

### MARRIAGE.

**MILNER-HEFFER.**—March 23, at the Congregational Church, George-street, Croydon, by the Rev. W. K. Lea, assisted by the Rev. I. Atkinson, the Rev. T. Milner, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, to Grace Miriam, the eldest daughter of Henry Heffer, Esq., of Springfield, Upper Norwood.

### DEATH.

**WHITEHOUSE.**—March 18, at 32, Albert-road, Upper Holloway, Sarah, wife of the Rev. J. O. Whitehouse, aged 46.

## BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, March 18, 1874.

### ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ... £37,399,690 Government Debt £11,015,100  
Other Securities ... 3,984,900  
Gold Coin & Bullion 22,399,690  
Silver Bullion ...

£37,399,690

£37,399,690

### BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietor's Capital £14,553,000 Government Securities, (inc. dead weight annuity) £13,812,524  
Reserve ... 8,795,246  
Public Deposits ... 10,100,202  
Other Deposits ... 17,386,287  
Savings Bank and other Bills ... 378,574  
Gold & Silver Coins 771,131

£46,215,259

£46,215,259

March 19, 1874.

F. MAY, Chief Cashier.

## FUNERAL REFORM.

The LONDON NECROPOLIS COMPANY conducts Funerals with simplicity, and with great economy. Prospectus free.—Chief Office, 2, Lancaster-place, Strand, W.C.

**MARRIAGE OF THE INNOCENTS.**—Parents valuing their children's safety will avoid soothing medicines containing opium, so frequently fatal to infants, and will use only "Stedman's Teething Powders," which are the safest and best, being free from opium. Prepared by a surgeon (not a chemist) formerly attached to a children's hospital, whose name, "Stedman," has but one "e" in it. Trade mark, a Gum Lancet. Refuse all others. Also Materfamilias Pills, a tasteless and efficient substitute for Castor Oil. Price 2*s.* 3*d.* per box. Depot—East-road, Hoxton, London, N.

**KINAHAN'S I.L. WHISKY.**—This most celebrated and delicious old mellow spirit is the very cream of Irish Whiskies, in quality unrivalled, perfectly pure, and more wholesome than the finest Cognac Brandy. Note the Red Seal, Pink label, and Cork branded "Kinahan's I.L. Whisky." Wholesale, 20, Great Titchfield-street, Oxford-st., W.

**"RESCUED FROM PRECARIOUS POSITIONS."**—Systematic habits of forethought should be sedulously cultivated by all persons having households under their care. When disorder first displays itself the remedy should be ready and its application immediate. When the throat, air-tubes, lungs, or heart have received mischief from atmospheric influences or other sources, Holloway's Ointment, well rubbed upon the skin, as nearly as possible to the affected organ, will give great comfort, vast freedom to respiration, immense exemption from irritation, and rescue the troubled sufferer. When skin diseases harry childhood, worry maturity, and torment old age beyond toleration, Holloway's means of relief should be handy. The Ointment acts as a prompt corrective. Under its soothing and salutary powers the irritable patient calms, the drooping revive.

### AS IT IS.

In "THE TIMES" of Jan. 7th, Dr. HASSALL writes:—

"I have made a further analysis of tea; of 18 samples, all were found to be adulterated. They were all artificially coloured with Prussian blue, turmeric, & a mineral powder. The substances used in facing tea serve no useful purpose, but render practicable other more serious adulterations."

3,848 AGENTS—Chemists, Confectioners, &c. in every town sell HORNIMAN'S PACKET TEA.

### AS IT OUGHT TO BE.

'At the Docks, where Horniman's Teas are in bond, I took samples from original chests, which I analysed & found perfectly PURE, and free from the usual artificial facing; the quality being equally satisfactory.' Feb. 20, 1874.

A. H. HASSALL, M.D.

## Markets.

**METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, March 23.**—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 7,585 head. In the corresponding week last year we received 7,524; in 1872, 17,859; in 1871, 12,811; in 1870, 8,187; and in 1869, 7,944 head. The cattle trade has continued in a very quiet state, and with rather more liberal supplies, prices have been barely so firm. From our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts have been tolerably good, and have included a fair sprinkling of well-conditioned animals. Much quietness has pervaded the market throughout, and the prices realised have been about equal to those current on Monday last. The best Scots and crosses selling at 5*s.* 8*d.* to 5*s.* 10*d.* per 8*lbs.* From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we have received about 1,800; from Lincolnshire 67; other parts of England, about 250; and from Scotland 84 head. On the foreign side of the market the show has been only moderate, and has included about 150 Dutch, 172 Gothenburg, and 114 Coromra. The trade has been quiet, and without feature, at about previous quotations. There has been a full average supply of sheep on offer, in, generally speaking, good condition. Sales have progressed slowly at late currencies. The best Downs and half-breeds in the wool have made 6*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.* 8*d.*, and ditto clipped 5*s.* 2*d.* to 5*s.* 4*d.* per 8*lbs.* Lambs have sold at 7*s.* 10 to 8*s.* 2*d.* per 8*lbs.* Prime small calves have been in request, otherwise the market has been quiet. Pigs have

been unaltered. At Deptford there have been about 54 German beasts.

Per 8*lbs.*, to sink the offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inf. coarse beasts	4	8	4	10	Prime Southdowns	6	4	6	8
Second quality	4	10	5	2	Large coarse calves	5	0	5	6
Prime large oxen	5	6	5	8	Prime small	6	0	6	6
Prime Scots	5	8	5	10	Large hogs	8	6	3	10
Coarse inf. sheep	5	0	5	4	Neat sm. porkers	4	4	4	8
Second quality	5	4	5	8	Lambs	7	10	8	2
Pr. coarse woolled	6	2	6	4					

**METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, March 23.**—The supplies of meat offering were moderately large. Trade, under the influence of mild weather, was dull, and especially for mutton, and prices remained weak.

Per 8*lbs.* by the carcass.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior beef	3	4	3	8	Inferior Mutton	3	4	3	8
Middling do.	4	0	4	4	Middling do.	3	8	4	4
Prime large do.	4	8	5	0	Prime do.	4	10	5	2
Prime small do.	5	0	5	4	Large pork	3	8	4	0
Small do.	4	8	5	4	Small do.	4	8	5	4

Lamb, 6*s.* 8*d.* to 7*s.* 4*d.*

## CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, March 23.

The supply of both English and foreign wheat was moderate for to-day's market. We had an inactive trade, and English wheat sold slowly at a decline of 1*s.* to 2*s.* per qr. from the prices of Monday last. Foreign wheat was not so much pressed for sale, but was dull at 1*s.* per qr. decline. Flour was 1*s.* per sack and 6*d.* per barrel lower from last Monday. Peas were unaltered in value. Beans were 1*s.* per qr. lower. Indian corn maintained last week's quotations. Barley of all descriptions was firm, at former prices. The oat trade was quiet, and prices ex-ship ruled 8*d.* to 6*d.* per qr. below the prices of this day week. The fresh arrivals at the ports of call are of moderate extent. Cargoes of wheat are 1*s.* per qr. lower from Monday last. Indian corn and barley are unchanged in value.

### CURRENT PRICES.

	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
WHEAT—	s.	s.
Essex and Kent,		
White fine	— to 56	
" new	— 55	
red fine	— 52	
Ditto new	— 55	
Foreign red	56 57	
" white	61 63	

BARLEY—		
Grinding	34 38	
Chevalier	45 46	
Distilling	40 46	
Foreign	40 44	
MALT—		
Pale, new	73 78	
Chevalier	— —	
Brown	54 59	

BEANS—		
Ticks	38 39	
Harrow	41 45	
Pigeon	44 50	
Egyptian	41 42	
PEAS—		
Grey	36 to 39	
Maple	39 45	
White, boilers	39 46	
Foreign	40 44	
RYE—		
	42 44	

**PROVISIONS, Monday, March 23.**—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 27 firkins butter, and 3,284 bales bacon, and from foreign ports, 26,400 packages butter, and 1,680 bales and 481 boxes bacon. The supplies of foreign butter are increasing, and lower prices taken for some descriptions; best Dutch declined 6*s.* to 10*s.* per cwt. The bacon market ruled slow, no change in the value of finest Waterford, but for other descriptions prices were rather in favour of buyers.

**COVENT GARDEN, Thursday, March 19.**—We have not much to report upon here; a slight improvement has, however, taken place in some articles, chiefly in those of choice descriptions. Strawberries are much more freely supplied, but the price is low. Good retarded grapes have advanced, and some new black Hamburghs are offered. Pines sufficient for the demand; the supply from the Azores has fallen off. Amongst the retail quotations of specialties we note the following: Strawberries, 2*s.* to 4*s.* per oz.; lychees, 4*s.* per pound; French beans, 3*s.* per 100; French broad beans, 4*s.* per pad; new English hothouse grapes, 80*s.* per pound; Norfolk Bees, 2*s.* per doz.; custard apples (from St. Michael's), 3*s.* to 12*s.* per doz.; and bananas, 1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* per doz. Potatoes are in good demand at prices quoted, the best samples being a little in advance.

**HOPE, BOROUGH, Monday, March 23.**—Business is still restricted to a small consumptive trade. Prices are very irregular here and there. Hops pressed for sale are sold at lower values. Yearlings and olds are in limited demand. Continental markets show no alteration. Mid and East Kent, 4*s.* 15*s.*, 5*s.* 12*s.*, 6*s.* 10*s.*; Weald of Kent, 4*s.* 0*s.*, 4*s.* 5*s.*, 4*s.* 15*s.*; Sussex, 3*s.* 15*s.*, 4*s.* 0*s.*, 4*s.* 10*s.*; Farnham and Country, 5*s.* 0*s.*, 5*s.* 12*s.*, 6*s.* 0*s.*; Farnhams, 5*s.* 12*s.*, 6*s.* 10*s.*

**POTATOES.**—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, March 23.—There were fair average supplies of potatoes on offer to-day, for the better qualities of which a steady demand prevailed, at the quotations appended. Last week's imports into London consisted of 26,678 bags and 182 tons from Antwerp; 816 tons 627 sacks from Dunkirk; 194 sacks from Boulogne; 833 bags from Rotterdam; 90 tons from St. Malo; 2,162 bags from Ghent; 74 bags from Harlingen, and 6 barrels from New York. Best Regents, 11*s.* to 13*s.* per ton; seconds, 8*s.* 0*s.* to 11*s.* 0*s.* per ton; Rocks, 6*s.* 0*s.* to 9*s.* 0*s.* per ton; Flukes, 12*s.* 0*s.* to 16*s.* 0*s.* per ton.

**SEED, Monday, March 23.**—Fine red cloverseed was in limited supply, and such commanded high prices. There was a fair quantity of medium and inferior qualities; these were taken slowly at varied and irregular prices. Fine samples of red were quite as dear. Trefoil met a steady sale at no quotable change in the value of any sort. White mustard-seed was taken off in small lots at former values for the best qualities. Very little brown offering, and prices without variation. Canaryseed sold at last week's currencies steadily. Dutch hempseed scarce and dear, but good German can be obtained at 36*s.* per qr. Spring tares were purchased more freely, and the best samples brought quite as high rates.

**WOOL, Monday, March 23.**—The position of the English wool market is unaltered. There has been only a moderate business doing, but values have been maintained.

**TALLOW, Monday, March 23.**—The market is dull and weak for P.Y.C., at 38*s.* on the spot. Town tallow commands 40*s.* 6*d.* net cash. Rough fat is worth 1*s.* 10*d.* per 8*lbs.*

**COAL, Monday, March 23.**—There has been a large supply of house coals, the weather being mild, and prices continue the same. Blettons, 23*s.*; Harton, 20*s.*; Heston Lyons, 20*s.* Ships for sale, 40; ships at sea, 10.

Advertisements.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.

for the EDUCATION of the SONS of MINISTERS.  
The Committee beg to announce that relying on the support of the Christian public, they have decided to RECEIVE next Midsummer ALL THE APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION, SEVENTEEN in number, and that therefore there will be NO ELECTION IN APRIL.  
The ANNUAL MEETING will be held as usual, on Tuesday, April 23, at the Mission House, Blomfield-street.  
Further particulars in due course.  
Donations and Subscriptions are earnestly solicited to meet the constantly increasing expenditure.

S. MORLEY, Esq., Treasurer,  
18, Wood-street, Cheapside.  
JOSHUA VINEY, Hon. Sec.

EDUCATION for GIRLS, at SOUTHSIDE HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

Principals—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. SMITH and Miss FERRIS.  
The course of study is adapted to the standard of the Cambridge Local Examinations, and is under the personal supervision of Mr. H. B. Smith and Miss Ferris, who have had considerable experience in teaching, and have successfully passed Pupils at Cambridge and Oxford Local Examinations.  
French taught by a resident Parisian Lady.  
Young Ladies intending to become Teachers, and who can be well recommended, may be received on reduced Terms, and will be afforded facilities for the acquirement of the Languages, Drawing, and Music.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX.

HEAD MASTER—  
RICHARD F. WEYMOUTH, Esq., D. Lit. and M.A.,  
Fellow of Univ. Coll., Lond.; Member of the Council of the Philological Society, &c., &c.

VICE-MASTER—  
Rev. ROBERT HARLEY, F.R.S., F.R.A.S., Corresponding Member of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester, Member of the London Mathematical Society, formerly Professor of Mathematics and Logic in Alredale College, Bradford, &c.

ASSISTANT MASTERS—  
A. H. SCOTT WHITE, Esq., B.A., Prizeman in Anglo-Saxon and Early English of Univ. Coll., Lond.  
JAMES H. MURRAY, Esq., B.A., F.E.L.S., Member of the Council of the Philological Society, one of the Editors of the Publications of the Early English Text Society, Author of "The Dialect of the Southern Counties of Scotland," &c., &c.  
JAMES NETTLESHIP, Esq., B.A., Scholar and Prizeman of Christ's Coll., Camb.; 2nd Class Classical Tripos, 1866.  
G. EMERY, Esq., B.A.

LADY RESIDENT—Miss COOKE.

LENT TERM commenced 22nd January, 1874.

For Prospectuses and further information, apply to the Head Master, at the School, or to the Secretary, the Rev. R. H. MARTIN, B.A., Lee, &c.

COLLEGIATE SCHOOL, GRANVILLE HOUSE, BRIDPORT.

Rev. H. WALL, B.A., RECEIVES a limited number of YOUNG GENTLEMEN to Board and Educate. Having several vacancies, he will be happy to correspond with Parents wishing to place their Sons where they will enjoy the comforts of Home combined with thorough Educational advantages. References to Parents.

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